

Controversy hounds Slumdog makers



metronews

WEEKEND, JAN. 30-FEB. 1, 2009

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Rainmen finally beat New England team

Cops seize \$1.2M in smokes

299 cases of contraband

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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It's the largest illegal cigarette bust in recent memory in Nova Scotia.

RCMP officers seized 299 cases of contraband smokes at a residence on Highway 7 in the Smith Settlement area on Wednesday.

"RCMP received information on suspicious activity in the area, completed surveillance of a residence and discovered two vehicles, a rental truck and an 18-wheeler on the property which had illegal tobacco in them," said RCMP Insp. Brian Brennan on Thursday.

Two men were arrested — a 43-year-old local man and a 45-year-old Montreal man. The retail value of this bust is \$1.2 million.

Such a large-scale operation, with cigarettes from central Canada, leads investigators to believe this operation is connected to organized crime. Brennan said in-

vestigators are still working on which organized crime group is involved.

"Illicit tobacco shouldn't be looked upon by the general public in any different way than drug trafficking," he said. "Whether you buy a quantity of drugs or illicit tobacco, you're funding organized crime."

These groups are diversifying into illegal tobacco as well as the drug trade, he added.

Officers caught the cigarettes before they made it to the lowest-level distributors, who tend to sell them from their houses or legitimate businesses. If convicted, the two men could face incarceration, but more likely a fine based on the number of cigarettes seized.

"For organized crime groups that have large networks and have the monetary ability to be involved in this illicit activity, the monetary fines are really a cost of doing business for them," Brennan said.



Cpl. Joe Taplin displays some of the contraband cigarettes that were seized on Wednesday in one of the biggest busts in the province's history. Two men have been arrested.

By the numbers

Seizures have nearly doubled every year for the past three years in Nova Scotia.

"It's hard to say what we're not getting, but conservatively I would say it's two or three times higher than that based on the information we get coming in from our intelligence sources," Brennan said. "There's a high volume of it here."

BY THE NUMBERS:

Nova Scotia:

- In 2008, RCMP seized 48,396 cartons of contraband tobacco in 81 seizures, at a retail value of \$3,871,680.

- In 2007, RCMP seized 27,253 cartons of contraband tobacco.

- In 2006, RCMP seized 13,319 cartons.

Atlantic Canada:

- In 2008, 136,764 cartons seized.

- In 2007, 93,081 cartons seized.

- In 2006, 58,269 cartons seized.

Father of teen fired over Cherry chat files complaint

RIGHTS Don Cherry loves it when kids talk to him. But an Oshawa, Ont., teen has been banned from his job as a volunteer cameraman at the General Motors Centre for doing just that.

Billy Steele, 17, was told that approaching a celebrity at a special hockey event on Jan. 14 was against the rules. The company that runs the centre, Global Spectrum, said he's no longer welcome in the building as a volunteer with Rogers TV, which covers OHL games there.

The edict has outraged Billy's father, Bill Steele, who's filed a human rights



A photo of Billy Steele, 17, with Don Cherry taken on Jan. 14.

complaint alleging workplace discrimination because his son has a severe learning disability.

And Cherry is "infuriat-

ed" with Global Spectrum over the incident.

"I resent the fact that (it's) brought my name into firing a young kid who comes

up and asks me about my ties," said the host of Hockey Night in Canada in a phone interview.

"Oh, geez, please, me complain? I love it when kids come up and are friendly like that. I welcome kids — that's why I wear those goofy ties," he said.

Although Cherry didn't complain about the incident, Billy had been warned "numerous times" about violating procedures, said Vince Vella, general manager of the city-owned sports and entertainment facility.

"This young man ... continuously fails to comply." Vella said the matter will

be reviewed next year, but for now Billy can work in Rogers' truck in the parking lot. Rogers could not be reached for comment.

The teen, who said the "no-talk policy" was news to him, is crushed. He says his unpaid job at "Rogers College," where he also did a co-op placement last fall, was his ticket to a career.

"I'm one of their top cameramen," he said proudly. "I want to get a job there one day."

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Canucks still like their meals prepared for them

Canadians spent \$4.1 billion eating and drinking out in November, a 1.2 per cent increase over October 2008. Most of the increase came from full-service restaurants. Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick were the only provinces to see lower sales. **METRO HALIFAX**

3

Local



Doctor fined for graphic content

Karen Megeney, whose son, Cpl. Kevin Megeney died in Afghanistan in March 2007, says she's glad the College of Physicians and Surgeons fined doctor Kevin Patterson for writing a graphic article describing her son's death. Patterson, a civilian contract doctor who treated the dying soldier in Afghanistan, must pay a \$7,000 fine and take ethics classes.

METRO HALIFAX

Oysters Shucking good time



Scott Morash, second cook at Delta Halifax, shucks oysters at Sip n' Shuck Thursday. The event, which promoted local aquaculture products and wines, featured a local celebrity contest where participants were vying for the Nova Scotia oyster-shucking crown.

Lost \$75 million will be made up: Premier

PAUL MCLEOD
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The premier says Nova Scotia won't be losing money from the Atlantic Accord. You'll just have to trust him.

Equalization payments to the province are down \$75 million this year, but Premier Rodney MacDonald said the feds will make that up with a "transitional payment."

There's no written agreement for this payment.

Nor was it mentioned in the recent federal budget. But MacDonald said he had the prime minister's word Bluenosers will get the money back.

"I spoke directly to the prime minister himself about this issue," said MacDonald.

He said the two levels of government were working out the details of the agreement and would provide documentation "later this week."

That didn't temper the opposition's scorn.

"I know if I was the federal auditor general, and I was being told by premiers of the provinces that the budget that was being brought down was in fact not the budget, that would be pretty much an indictment of the whole process," said NDP Leader Darrell Dexter.

When questioned by Independent MP Bill Casey, federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty admitted the \$75 million payment was only guaranteed for this year.

Uni degrees up for academic year

EDUCATION Maritimers are getting educated: In 2007, Maritime universities granted 16,391 degrees, certificates and diplomas, an all-time high. In Nova Scotia, 7,972 people got undergraduate degrees, a 7.8 per cent increase from the year before.

The Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission says that's partly because of the high number of "double cohort" Ontario high school grads, who came to Nova Scotia to study the year grade 13 was eliminated.

Enrolment at Nova Scotia universities overall was down for the 2007-08.

METRO HALIFAX

Row over scrums and a podium

MEDIA Weeks of growing tension erupted into a standoff and then a shouting match yesterday between Premier Rodney MacDonald's staff and the provincial press corps. And it was all over a podium.

Two weeks ago the premier's staff announced they wanted to do away with media scrums — where politicians talk face-to-face with a group of reporters — at weekly cabinet meetings.

Instead he would take questions from a podium because it "looks and sounds better."

Reporters worried the new setup would give the

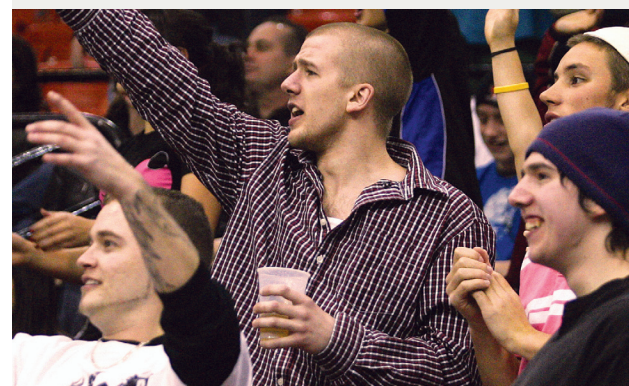
premier more power to control the conversation and an easy exit if things went bad.

So, yesterday reporters refused. After a brief standoff they brought their equipment onstage and scrummed the premier around the podium.

"I've been very respectful to all of you with being available to answer questions," said MacDonald. "I would've hoped there would have been a little respect shown to our government." He then turned and walked out the back entrance, ignoring questions.

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX
FOR MORE SEE P 12

Prize pack Face in the crowd



If that's you holding the cup of beer at Thursday night's Rainmen game, you're our Face in the Crowd winner! Drop by the Metro office at 3260 Barrington St. to pick up your prize: A Rainmen Flex Pack.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blog For all things Super bowl, check out Laurence Heinen's blog all weekend at metronews.ca/blogs



News in brief

MANNERS A would-be robber walked into the Needs Store on Cobequid Road on Tuesday and demanded money and cigarettes. When the clerk asked him to "please leave the store," the suspect said he was the first person to ask nicely — and left. The suspect is described as a white youth aged around 17-year-old.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

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Business students are hoping to raise more than \$40,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society this year in Trumped, an annual competition for business students. It kicked off this week at Saint Mary's University. There are 41 teams, nearly quadruple the number that competed last year. **METRO HALIFAX**

African Heritage Month hits 25th yr.

CELEBRATION February is African Heritage Month — and its 25th anniversary, to boot. Carter Woodson, a Harvard-educated black historian, came up with the idea for Black History Month in 1926 to celebrate African Americans' contribution to the U.S.; it was expanded to a month-long festival in 1976.

There's a list of activities, including a gala in Sydney and theatre performances in Halifax Regional Municipality. Want to join in? Visit gov.ns.ca/ansa or call 424-3842.

METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

SUMMER SKATE Love that winter skating feeling — even in summer? IcePro Sports, a firm that makes synthetic ice-skating surfaces, is looking for someone to operate a synthetic rink in the HRM. Synthetic rinks are usually a quarter or a third of the size of a regular, chilly rink.

METRO HALIFAX

Maritime Museum Visitor No. 4,091,581



Ralph Muench, the first official visitor to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic back in 1982, attends a ceremony as part of the museum's 27th anniversary celebrations on Thursday. Muench was 14 when he was the first visitor and 27 years later during Thursday's visit — he was visitor 4,091,581.

Heritage group worried about new WTCC

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The former Chronicle Herald building site on Argyle will be the home of the new World Trade and Convention Centre, according to CTV News.

Politicians at both levels of government are staying tight-lipped, and officially no decision has been made yet.

But CTV says the Argyle Street site, which also includes the Midtown Tavern on Grafton Street, has beaten its competition.

Citing anonymous sources, reporter Rick Grant said winning developer Joe Ramia was planning a 13-storey glass office tower on the Midtown Tavern site and a 17-storey hotel where the old Herald building currently stands.

The Herald site would also hold the new convention centre, which would feature 2,500 seats. That's about three times what the current centre holds.

Diagrams show a pedway connecting the two buildings over Grafton Street.

Despite the details from Grant's report, politicians and developers have shied away from confirming anything on the record.

"We've made no decision yet. We're working very closely with the city and we'll have more details in the future," Premier Rodney MacDonald said.

When asked if Argyle Street would be the new home of the convention centre, he said again, "We haven't made any final decisions yet, and those details will come out another day."

Phil Pacey, president of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, implied his group might fight the development. While the lot is not a heritage site, Pacey pointed out it is near other heritage buildings such as St. Paul's Church.

"We would want buildings to respect the scale and complement those heritage buildings," said Pacey.

WITH FILES FROM JENNIFER TAPLIN

Icy weather prompts 3rd school closure of winter

WEATHER More than 50,000 students in the HRM had their third snow day of the winter Thursday — and it's only January.

The decision to close all the schools under the Halifax Regional School Board was made before 6 a.m. because of slick road and sidewalk conditions.

Doug Hadley, a spokesman for the board, said so far this winter schools have been closed for three-and-a-half days, with more closures for schools on the Eastern Shore.

"We typically have anywhere from two to three school cancellations in a year, and the teachers are very adept at making up

for the lost time," Hadley said. "At the high school level, it was the final day of exams, so they'll make those up (Friday)."

Considering schools were closed six times last year, three and a half lost days so far year isn't "out of whack," he said.

"In fact it's a lot less for our

board compared to other boards around the province."

There were very few calls and concerns from parents.

"We know a school closure for the day causes parents to juggle their schedules, but most parents try to put those plans in place in advance early in the school year."

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

City needs to keep young talent: Fusion

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"People do choose to stay here. They want to stay here."

Natasha Winters

Young professionals want to live in Halifax for the lifestyle and their closeness to friends and family, according to a survey by Fusion Halifax.

But 65 per cent don't believe Halifax holds long-term opportunities for them to progress in their careers, and that's something the city needs to fix if it wants to keep young talent, say members of the youth action group.

Fusion surveyed 234 young people between the ages of 20 and 40. Of those, 85 per cent said they stayed in Halifax to be near friends and family, and 75 per cent suggested they stayed for the balanced lifestyle. Three-quarters of respondents said they worked an average of 36 to 50 hours per week.

Still, a high percentage — 69 per cent — said they'd consider leaving for the right job.

"People do choose to stay here. They want to stay here. This is their number one choice for a place to live," said Natasha Winters, co-head of the group's People

ple Action team.

Part of the problem, said Fusion chair Alyson Queen, is that Halifax has traditionally been a place where you get jobs largely through connections. That makes it tough for those without connections — or ex-pats looking to come home — to break in.

"Previously, there's been that notion of who you know, hearing things through the grapevine," Queen said. "We need to think about not only keeping people here, but also bringing them back."

The survey showed mixed loyalty; 51 per cent of respondents said they planned to stay with their current employer for up to three years. For those who have moved back to Halifax after time away, 76 per cent said they'd leave again for the right opportunity.

Thursday night, Fusion hosted a panel discussion with local business leaders to discuss the results.

LOOKING AHEAD – GAINING PERSPECTIVE

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ALEX MACDONALD, CMHC Regional Economist, will provide an overview of the economy and housing sector in Atlantic Canada as well as details on CMHC's forecast for the region.

PETER FRIEDMANN, General Manager - Ontario Region, and Managing Director - Securitization, CMHC, will provide an overview of the current operating environment as it pertains to housing finance, including recent developments, and will identify business trends in the mortgage lending and securitization markets.

MATTHEW GILMORE, CMHC, Senior Market Analyst, will provide an analysis and overview of local housing market trends in the current economic environment and offer insights into the Halifax housing outlook for the next two years.

Registration Fee

Regular Rate	\$225.00/pp (tax included)
Group Rate for a group of six (names of individuals must be provided at time of registration)	\$940.00 (tax included)

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Mail: CMHC, 700 Montreal Road, Suite 1000,
Ottawa, ON K1A 0P7

Canada



Bet you didn't know Monday — that's Feb. 2 — is World Wetlands Day

The Nature Conservancy of Canada says it's celebrating by buying prime wetlands, including more than 16,000 hectares of Atlantic natural habitat. **METRO HALIFAX**

Foodies: Ready your taste buds

JON TATTIE
for Metro Halifax



February is shaping up to be a fantastic month for foodies in Halifax with the return of Savour.

Starting Sunday, Nova Scotians will be able to taste rare wines, try new restaurants and even be a chef for a day.

"I have three rules: Bring your liver, bring your appetite and don't ask for seconds — keep moving," jokes Gordon Stewart, executive director of the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia.

One of Stewart's highlights is the opportunity to hang out with Chef Renée Lavallée of The Five Fishermen.

That'll set you back a cool \$100, but Stewart says it's worth it.

"Chef Renée will take you down to the Farmers' Market. You pick up your food and head back to the Five Fishermen. You cook

your food right with her and then sit down and eat it," Stewart says.

"It's really fun."

Restaurants across the province participating in the prix-fixe menu will be offering meals at three set rates, allowing you to enjoy the food without losing your appetite when the bill arrives.

Events climax with the Savour Food and Wine Show on Feb. 26, returning to the Halifax Marriott this year.

At least 60 restaurants and wine merchants will gather to take food lovers to paradise.

"It's not the biggest food show of the year, but it's the best. Some of the chefs do incredible stuff," Stewart says.



Dennis Johnston, chef at Fid on Dresden Row, seasons crunchy pig's head at his restaurant yesterday. Johnston is offering hands-on cooking classes as part of the Savour Food and Wine Festival.

There's also the new Rare and Fine Wines event.

For \$110, wine-lovers will get to sample 28 select wines not sold in stores.

Chef Dennis Johnson of Fid on Dresden Row is offering hands-on cooking classes with "supper clubs" Feb. 22 and 23.

A small group will join Johnson in his kitchen to

learn how to make appetizers, main courses and desserts.

"I coach them through the meal and they do all the cooking," Johnson says.

Go to Fidcuisine.ca for more information.

Don't follow feds into red

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How's your financial literacy?

A task force will come up with recommendations for a national strategy to help Canadians brush up on their financial management skills, or "financial literacy."

This initiative was announced in the federal budget Tuesday.

If Jocelyn Brown were on that task force, she'd have more than a few pieces of advice for Canadian consumers.

Brown is the director of education for Credit Counselling Services of Canada.

"If you want to take control of your finances, the first thing you need to do is, you have to know where your money goes," she said.

It doesn't mean coming up with a complicated budget, just keeping track of spending habits.

"If you want to take control of your finances, the first thing you need to do is ... know where your money goes."

Jocelyn Brown

"All you do is take 30 or 60 days and track everything: How much on Tim Hortons? How much on haircuts, gas, groceries, etc.?" she said.

"Without knowing where your money goes, you'll never manage everything."

Another problem is consumers aren't aware of the cost of credit and paying vast amounts of interest for a long time.

"And lines of credit are dangerous also," Brown said.

"What we see is consumers are spending more than they make and credit cards and lines of credit cards are picking up the slack."

Public Consultation

Condominium Act

This Act relates to the development and operation of condominiums.

We are seeking public feedback on possible changes to this Act.

A discussion paper is available for this purpose at **www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/condoact** or by calling **902-424-5200** in Metro **1-800-670-4357** toll free

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Thank you for your participation.

Note: Construction issues are part of the Homeowner Protection Review; therefore, NOT part of this consultation.

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Bad weather, bad day for truck drivers

CAPE BRETON Apparently high winds and highway trucks don't mix.

Strong westerly winds, with gusts up to 100 kilometres per hour, made road conditions difficult across Cape Breton Island on Thursday, causing two separate accidents with tractor-trailers.

Ingonish RCMP Cpl. Ken Wallis said an 18-wheeler got stuck three-quarters of the way up Cape Smokey due to the weather.

Traffic was blocked for several hours. Department of Transportation officials remained on the scene all afternoon, throwing down salt in an attempt to give the truck some traction.

Cpl. Ron MacDonald of the RCMP's Cape Breton Traffic Services said a highway tractor-trailer was blown over on the Seal Island bridge, reducing traffic to one lane.

Trucks with light loads were being prevented from crossing the bridge, said MacDonald. No one was injured in either incident.

THE CAPE BRETON POST

All eyes will be on Sam

More winter? Early spring? Groundhog prediction Monday



DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Will we face another six weeks of this gruelling winter? Or will we get an early spring? Groundhog Day is Monday; Shubenacadie Sam will be the first groundhog to make his weather prediction in North America.

Can you stretch that road salt through the rest of winter, or will you be shovelling for months more?

On Monday, Shubenacadie Sam will tell us whether we've got six more loooong weeks of winter, or whether we can break out the sunscreen early.

Thanks to Nova Scotia's time zone, Shubenacadie Sam is the first weather-predicting groundhog in North America. If he sees his shadow and runs back into his burrow, it's time to book a trip to Mexico. If not, tradition dictates, spring is around the corner.

After yesterday's icy

roads and high winds, we could use a high sign from Sam.

But Sam isn't the only weather-wise groundhog in the province — 13-year-old Two Rivers Tunnel will make a prediction Monday, too. That party will happen in Marion Bridge, Cape Breton Co. Two Rivers Tunnel was wrong last year, though.

According to the Groundhogs at HogHaven website (www.hoghaven.com), groundhogs live only a few years. Many don't survive the cold winters of hibernation but can live upwards of 10 years in captivity.

METRO HALIFAX

History

- German tradition holds that if the sun comes out on Candlemas, the precursor to Groundhog Day, the hedgehog (or badger) will see its shadow and six more weeks of winter will follow. When German settlers came to Pennsylvania they continued this tradition, using groundhogs instead of hedgehogs to predict the weather.
- The first official Groundhog Day was celebrated on Feb. 2, 1886, in Punxsutawney, Pa.

Dozen people homeless after fire

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SYDNEY A dozen people were left homeless by a fire Wednesday night at a 14-unit apartment building in downtown Sydney.

The fire started near the laundry room and left most of the building with smoke and water damage, although flames were quickly doused. Seven tenants took emergency accommodations from the Red Cross; others stayed with family and friends. Eight of the 14 apartments at 325 Bentinck St. were occupied at the time of the fire.

The cause is still under investigation.

The Red Cross says since Dec. 21, 2008, more than 165 people across the province have been affected by 42 house and apartment fires. The Red Cross is asking for donations to help with its emergency response. Visit redcross.ca to donate.

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B.C. RCMP accused of torture will not be investigated

Three Prince George, B.C., RCMP officers slammed by a judge for deliberately losing or destroying video surveillance tape alleged to show the "torture" of a handcuffed man with a Taser will not face an internal code of conduct investigation, an RCMP spokesperson said Thursday. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada



Nortel abandons WiMax

Nortel Networks Corp., the ailing telecom equipment provider, has decided to abandon its WiMax wireless technology business as it restructures in bankruptcy protection. In the months leading up to its filing for bankruptcy protection, Nortel hailed WiMax — essentially a type of fast, next-generation wireless technology — as very promising.

REUTERS

Vancouver **Beluga with baby**



Aurora, the Vancouver Aquarium's newest mother-to-be, takes a closer look at visitors on Thursday after staff announced that Aurora is pregnant with her third calf and is due in the summer. For video, go to www.metronews.ca/vancouver.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO CANADA

Tories set to toughen consumer safety laws

More than a year after Prime Minister Stephen Harper complained about Canada's outdated consumer safety regulations, the federal Conservatives are taking another shot at toughening the laws.

The Canada Consumer Product Safety Act introduced yesterday would give Ottawa new power to enforce the recall of unsafe products and slap big fines on corporate offenders who produce them. "This will modernize the legislation. It will also equip the government with new tools to act quickly and effectively," Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq said.

Overhaul

- The bill is an effort to overhaul existing laws that date back 40 years and have left the government relying on manufacturers to voluntarily recall unsafe products, officials say.

"As it is right now, we cannot recall any products. There's no reporting of incidents. It's very, very weak," she said in an interview. The legislation was first promised by Harper in December 2007. The proposed regulations were introduced into Parliament last April, but never

became law because of the September election call. Canadian consumers have seen a string of worrisome product recalls. One recall, prompted by a Torstar News Service investigation, involved millions of RCMP-themed toys because they contained dangerously high levels of lead and posed a choking hazard to children. "It is about the lead in children's toys, it's about the cribs that are not safe. So I think there is huge interest in seeing this go through," Aglukkaq said, explaining the need for new laws.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE


News in brief

DISCOVERY Southern Alberta has its very own Stonehenge, claims a University of Alberta professor. Gordon Freeman says that about 70 km east of

Calgary, there's an open-air stone temple that marks the changing seasons and the phases of the moon. "Genius existed on the prairies 5,000


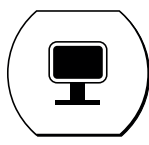
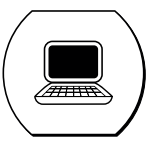
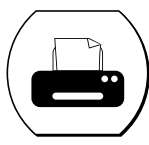
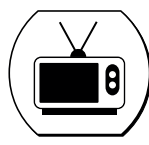




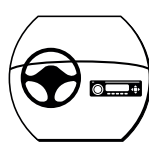
years ago," he said. He has published his findings in a new book titled Alberta's Stonehenge.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



NOVA SCOTIA'S ELECTRONICS RECYCLING PROGRAM

Effective February 1, 2009, the ACES Program is expanding to include additional electronic products that are banned from Nova Scotia's landfills. To ensure that these electronics are recycled responsibly, an Environmental Handling Fee (EHF) is charged on each new product at the point of purchase. The program now includes all of the following categories:

DESKTOP COMPUTERS  \$10 EHF	COMPUTER MONITORS  \$12 EHF	LAPTOP COMPUTERS  \$5 EHF	DESKTOP PRINTERS  \$8 EHF	TELEVISIONS  \$15-45 EHF
PERSONAL OR PORTABLE AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS  \$0.40 EHF	HOME AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS  \$3.50 EHF	HOME THEATRE IN A BOX (HTB) SYSTEMS  \$6 EHF	NON-CELLULAR TELEPHONES *  \$0.85 EHF	VEHICLE AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS (AFTERMARKET)  \$2.75 EHF

* Cell phones are not part of the ACES Program and will be managed separately. Visit www.recyclemycell.ca or phone 1-888-797-1740 for more information.



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www.ACESstewardship.ca
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Aunt charged with murder

A 24-year-old woman was charged Thursday with the second-degree murder of her four-year-old niece in Edmonton. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

canada 9



Christoph Sensen, right, and Bob Church, faculty members of the University of Calgary, stand on the prairie at a ranch outside Airdrie, Alta. They have developed a blood test that can diagnose fatal chronic wasting disease in elk, and believe it may provide a cheap way to screen cattle for mad cow disease.

New test may screen for mad cow disease

Researchers in Alberta have developed a blood test that can diagnose fatal chronic wasting disease in elk, and believe it may provide a cheap way to screen cattle for mad cow disease.

The test looks for signs of damaged cells in the blood, they reported in the journal *Nucleic Acids Research*. It may also offer a way to diagnose people with a related disease called Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, or CJD, they said Thursday.

"We can now take a blood sample from a live animal and look at the DNA patterns in the blood and predict six months ahead of time whether an animal is infected with

"We can now take a blood sample from a live animal and ... predict six months ahead of time whether an animal is infected."

Christoph Sensen, researcher

chronic wasting disease," Christoph Sensen of the University of Calgary said in a telephone interview.

The secret is not finding the prions that cause mad cow disease and other so-called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies or TSEs, Sensen said. Instead they looked for circulating nucleic acids — little bits of DNA that get spat out when distressed cells die.

The found three distinct patterns in these circulat-

ing pieces of DNA that appeared three months before the elk showed symptoms. Each pattern correlated with genetic mutations known to put the animals at higher risk of contracting the disease.

TSEs such as chronic wasting disease, mad cow disease, scrapie and CJD destroy the brain and can happen spontaneously, but are also passed from animal to animal by eating infected tissue.

REUTERS

Transit strike reaches end of line

OTTAWA After 51 days, Ottawa's transit strike is over.

Mayor Larry O'Brien, Amalgamated Transit Union international vice-president Randy Graham and ATU 279 president Andre Cornellier announced Thursday evening they had tentatively agreed to send all outstanding issues including scheduling, to binding arbitration without any preconditions.

"The federal government of Canada has started the process of back-to-work legislation," said O'Brien. "When both parties realized that the end of the strike was inevitable, both parties decided it was time to get back to work."

Graham said they could not give exact timelines on when the buses will return.

METRO CANADA

Arar calls testimony linking him to Khadr 'shocking'

ALLEGATION Torture victim Maher Arar says he was shocked when he learned earlier this month that Pentagon prosecutors had linked him to a terrorist safe house in Afghanistan through an interrogation of Omar Khadr.

"It was shocking," Arar said last night before a panel discussion about media coverage of his

case was held at the University of Toronto. "For a week at least, I have been in deep depression mode," Arar said.

An FBI interrogator told a military court in Guantanamo Bay in 2002 Khadr said he recognized Arar in a photo because the Ottawa engineer had stayed at terrorist "safe houses."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

ONTARIO The longest strike yet at an English-language university in Canada will end when classes at Toronto's York University resume on Monday. The strike shut down the campus on Nov. 6 when 3,340 teaching assistants, contract

faculty and graduate assistants walked off the job. The Ontario Legislature passed back-to-work legislation yesterday, ending the three-month strike. It was the third strike in 12 years at the school.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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The so-called breast cancer genes BRCA1 and BRCA2 can raise the risk that a man who develops prostate cancer will get an aggressive form of the disease, U.S. researchers reported. Certain mutations in the genes indicated a man was at risk of more aggressive cancer and should be treated right away. **REUTERS**

Breast cancer genes increase severity of prostate cancer, study shows

World



Implants do not raise cancer risk

Women with cosmetic breast implants do not appear to have a higher risk of developing any type of cancer, even years after the surgery, according to a new study. Researchers who studied more than 6,200 women found the long-term risk of developing breast cancer was lower than the norm, and there was no change in the odds of suffering from other cancers.

REUTERS

Obama signs pay-equity law

U.S. President Barack Obama signed his first bill into law Thursday, handing his labour and women's rights backers a victory by reversing a 2007 U.S. Supreme Court decision that made it harder to sue for pay discrimination.

With the woman for whom the law was named at his side, Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act at the White House. The Democratic-led Congress passed the measure this week and many leaders attended the signing.

Pay equity was a sensitive issue during the presidential election campaign last year, especially among labour unions and women voters. On average, U.S. women are paid 23 per

Criticism

- Some Republicans and business leaders have expressed concern the measure could trigger lawsuits based on old claims, discourage employers from hiring women and block efforts to stem the recession.

cent less than men, while minority women receive even less.

Ledbetter is an Alabama woman who discovered after 19 years on the job at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. that she was the lowest-paid supervisor at her plant despite having more experience than several male co-workers.

REUTERS



Public and private sector workers demonstrate during a protest march Thursday in Lyon.

French unions call massive strike

LABOUR Hundreds of thousands of teachers, nurses, and factory workers marched through French cities on Thursday to demand raises and job protection.

The demonstrations were part of a nationwide one-day strike called by France's

eight main trade unions to persuade President Nicolas Sarkozy and business leaders to help citizens overcome the economic crisis.

But the stoppage, billed as a "Black Thursday," did not bring France to a halt as others have done.

In a rare show of unity,

the unions drew up a joint list of demands for the government and companies.

Specific demands included better pay and conditions for public transport workers as well as dropping plans to reform the health sector and cut 13,500 jobs in education.

REUTERS

News in brief

ICELAND Social Affairs Minister Johanna Sigurdardottir is widely expected to be named as interim prime minister in a new government this week ahead of possible early general elections. A Social Democrat, she has been proposed as a possible choice for the job by Social Democratic Alliance head Ingibjorg Gisladdottir. Sigurdardottir, 66, may be the first openly lesbian world leader; her spouse, Jonina Leosdottir, is an Icelandic author and playwright.

IRAQ An Iraqi town has unveiled a giant monument of a shoe honouring a journalist who threw his footwear at former U.S. president George W. Bush. The two-metre statue, unveiled on Thursday in Tikrit, depicts a bronze-coloured shoe, filled with a plastic shrub. Muntazer al-Zaidi has been held in jail in Baghdad since the incident, facing assault charges.

REUTERS

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No alcohol for children under 15, Britain warns parents

Parents should not let their children drink any alcohol until they are 15, the British government said Thursday after a review of medical evidence. The advice is part of government efforts to reduce youth drinking. A third of a million British children aged 11-15 were getting drunk every week, an official said. **REUTERS**

Blagojevich ousted

Senator accused of selling seat impeached 59-0

Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was convicted of impeachment charges and removed from office Thursday, eight weeks after he was arrested on charges of trying to sell the U.S. Senate seat once held by U.S. President Barack Obama.

The Illinois Senate, acting as a jury, voted 59-0 to oust the second-term Democrat immediately. The Senate also voted by the same margin to bar him from ever holding public office in the state again.

Before the decision, Blagojevich pleaded with the body to reconsider, asking, "How can you throw a governor out of office who is clamouring and begging and pleading with you to give him a chance to bring witnesses in to prove his innocence?"

It was the only defence he mounted during the four-day trial. He did not make a formal defence during trial because, he said, rules restricted him from calling the witnesses he needed or playing in full

Past charges

- Blagojevich was among four of Illinois' past eight governors hit by criminal charges. His immediate predecessor, George Ryan, is in prison.

the wiretapped conversations that led to charges.

Democratic Lt.-Gov Patrick Quinn was sworn in almost immediately. Blagojevich has not been indicted on criminal charges. **REUTERS**

Israel must investigate war-crime charges: U.S.

GAZA Israel must investigate allegations that its army violated international law in its war against Hamas militants in the Gaza Strip, the U.S. envoy to the UN said Thursday.

"We expect Israel will meet its international obligations to investigate and we also call upon all members of the international community to refrain from

Opponent killed

- A Palestinian man has accused Hamas militants of torturing and killing his brother for publicly criticizing them. Osama Atallah was a supporter of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, the sworn enemy of Hamas.

politicizing these impor-

tant issues," Ambassador Susan Rice said.

Rice said Hamas violated international law through rocket attacks against Israeli civilians and the use of civilian facilities to provide protection for attacks.

Israel fired on several UN installations in Gaza, where hundreds of Palestinians had been seeking shelter. **REUTERS**

Moscow A Communist party



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev helps Cuban leader Raul Castro into a jacket at Medvedev's official residence yesterday. Medvedev invited Castro for a feast to honour the Cuban leader's first visit to the country in more than two decades.

Violence forces Afghan girls from attending school

MIDDLE EAST From acid attacks to torching of schools and sexual assault, violence is dashing the hopes of Afghan girls and women who are thirsty for an education that may help rejuvenate the economy and society of their country.

In villages, particularly in the deeply conservative south, the Taliban have burnt down schools, killed female students and teachers and attacked schoolgirls with acid.

In relatively safer and less conservative Kabul, girls are facing abuse, sexual harassment and kidnappings. **REUTERS**



Nova Scotia Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

Nova Scotia Environmental Network (NSEN) UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS

Sustainability Education Networking 2009

Meetings with Lunch

Wed., February 18, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. CCEPA, 630

Francklyn St., Halifax

Fri., March 6, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Keating Millennium

Centre, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish

Talk "Current Trends in Aboriginal Law"

Thomas Isaac, LL.M.

Tuesday, February 3, 7:30-9:00 p.m., Rm. 1016, Rowe

Building, 6100 University Ave., Halifax

Film screening: FLOW: For the Love of Water

Wed., Feb. 4, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Seton Auditorium, C, Mount

Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway

Tues., Feb. 10, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion,

3495 Prospect Road, White's Lake

Environmental Education Caucus Meeting

Friday, February 20, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Department of

Natural Resources, 1701 Hollis St., Halifax

Environmental Law & Policy Meeting

Friday, February 20, 12:00-1:30 p.m., Ecology Action Centre,

2705 Fern Lane, Halifax

Envisioning a Community Garden for Mainland

Common Meeting

Saturday, February 21, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Rm. C, Keshen

Goodman Library, 330 Lacewood Dr., Halifax

Book Club "Go Green: How to Build An Earth

Friendly Community"

Saturday, April 4, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Alderney Gate

Library, 60 Alderney Dr., Dartmouth

Call for Nominations for NSEN Eco-Hero Awards - Deadline February 16.

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Comment & Views

Comment

EPFX offers 'miracle' cures

Machine being sold in Canada as unsupported claims grow

Marketplace

Erica Johnson



In my years as a reporter covering health stories, I thought I'd seen it all. But nothing compares to my investigation into the latest "miracle" machine that is sweeping Canada.

It's called the EPFX — Electro Physiological Feedback Xrroid. You can find it in alternative health care clinics, chiropractor and massage therapists. A session costs up to \$200.

To buy the machine and start operating as an EPFX practitioner costs about \$20,000 — not exactly chump change. The company's inventor claims he's selling about 40 devices a month in

Canada (do the math — that's \$800,000 a month).

The device is hooked up to a patient with straps that wrap around the ankles, wrists, and forehead. The device supposedly reads the body's reactivity to various frequencies, and then sends back other frequencies to make changes in the body.

Sound complicated? We thought so, too. But when

we asked practitioners to explain it, they said it was too hard for anyone but



the inventor to understand. We heard what practitioners promise the EPFX can do — and the claims are amazing. Not only can the device treat AIDS and Parkinson's, some tell us it has made cancer disappear. That's what Karen McBeth hoped when she bought an EPFX to treat her bone cancer. The Seattle woman shelled out almost \$20,000 after being told the device would heal her. Sadly, it didn't, and McBeth died.

In North America, the EPFX is only licensed as a biofeedback device for stress reduction. Practitioners aren't allowed to claim it cures disease — because there's no scientific proof that it does.

But that doesn't stop practitioners from singing its praises.

So we travelled to Hungary, to talk to inventor Bill Nelson. When we

Bill Nelson — the inventor of the EPFX

met, he was dressed as his female alter-ego, Desire Dubounet. Nelson says he's part female. And he made some pretty outrageous claims.

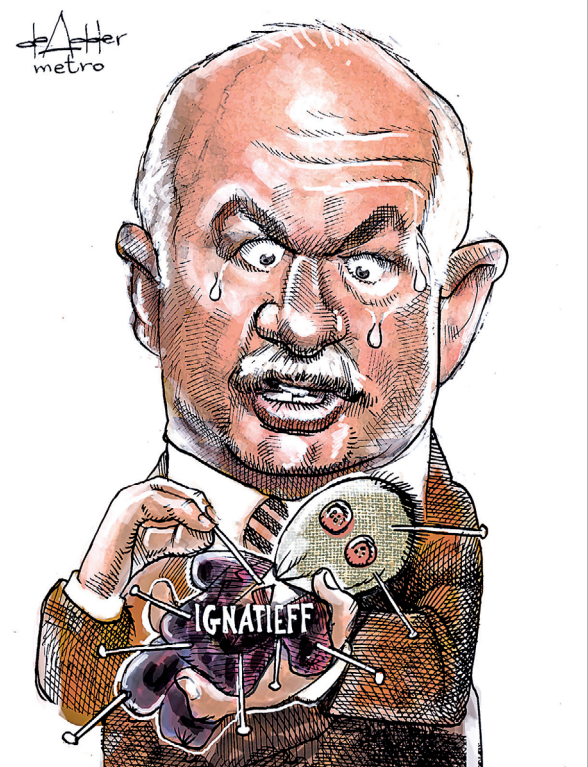
Nelson talked to us about a study he did on 7,000 cancer patients. After a few sessions on his medical device, he claimed that 2,000 people didn't have cancer anymore.

Hard to believe? It should be.

We asked for studies to back up claims about this miracle machine, but the inventor couldn't provide a single study that would stand up to scientific scrutiny.

And still, vulnerable people are buying in. And Health Canada is allowing the machine to be marketed to reduce stress — as a biofeedback device — so no one's clamping down on false claims, while sales continue to grow.

Erica Johnson is a journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. (9 p.m. NT) on CBC Television.



Quote of the Day

"Another Conservative budget rubber-stamped by another Liberal leader. It's official: Michael Ignatieff failed his first big test as Liberal leader."

— A televised NDP ad on Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Views

Plenty of political drama over MacDonald's new podium

UrbanCompass

Paul McLeod



paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

The thought of Premier Rodney MacDonald and the press corps breaking into a spat over a podium seems hilarious at first.

But it makes more sense when you think about Stephen Harper's recent visit. Harper had a "press conference" in the loosest sense of the term. Though all the major media outlets in the region were present, they were only allowed four questions by pre-selected re-

porters.

It was a farce. There's no way to ask followups or get anything other than the usual talking points from the PM. It's the least amount of accessibility possible — done just to get the PM into the papers and on TV.

Compared to Stephen Harper, Rodney MacDonald is your next-door neighbour. The premier usually makes himself available to media multiple times per week. He's been reasonable in returning phone calls to Metro.

But it's scary to see MacDonald beginning to emulate Harper. The province built a new media room across the hall from its cabinet meetings ostensibly to move the havoc

of scrums out of the hallway.

The press was leery, but reporters were promised that scrums would not come to a stop. When the province placed flags behind the spot where the scrums took place, reporters let it slide.

But this podium business (see

page 3) became a line in the sand. Reporters wanted assurances that this wasn't a step towards the dictatorial control Harper wields over the Ottawa press gallery.

The only response was there are "no plans" for more changes. For the press corps, that wasn't good enough.

enough.

And thus there was the ridiculous sight of reporters stubbornly scrumming the premier on stage at his podium.

After answering some questions, the premier told media that by not following the podium rules they were disrespecting government. Then he turned and walked out the back exit, ignoring reporters' questions — ironically, proving one of the media concerns.

Things spiralled from there.

"This is ridiculous," said exasperated CBC reporter Jean Laroche.

"It is ridiculous," replied MacDonald staffer Paul Palmer.

"We want some assur-

ances that you're not going to take it to that next step, Paul, and you've refused so far to address those concerns," said Brian Flinn, of allnovascotia.com.

"Have we?" was the only response.

Having reporters and politicians at each others' throats is just silly, and does the public no good.

Everyone involved seems to realize this, but the fight is now about much more than just a podium.

There's one week till the next cabinet meeting. If there's no compromise by then, things are just going to get nastier.

Paul McLeod is a staff reporter at Metro Halifax. He is currently in rehab for being a political junkie. It's going badly.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



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A South Korean biotech firm has unveiled a new cloning technology using stem cells derived from fat tissue, which increases success rates. The firm also says it costs 50 per cent less than current methods, which cost upwards of \$100,000 US. **REUTERS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Canada's business mood drops in Q4

CONFIDENCE Business confidence in Canada deteriorated in the fourth quarter, and companies are expected to curb investment plans as they deal with the weaker economy.

The Conference Board of Canada business confidence index fell 9.1 points to 68.9 at the end of 2008, the index's sixth quarterly decline. The think-tank says that pattern will continue into 2009. **REUTERS**

Tories fear U.S. protectionist rules

The Conservative government is concerned about protectionist pressures in the United States but is confident the U.S. administration will live up to its treaty obligations, the federal Industry minister said on TV yesterday.

Tony Clement, speaking on the CBC program, News: Morning, said the government is building a very strong relationship

with the new U.S. administration and that President Barack Obama's trip to Ottawa on Feb. 19 will provide a good opportunity for the two countries and major trading partners to strengthen ties.

The U.S. Congress passed a new \$819 billion US stimulus package Wednesday that included a clause that said funds made available in the act can be used only

"The United States has treaty obligations that they've signed onto."

Tony Clement

on projects in which all of the iron and steel for them are produced in the United States. The U.S. Senate has yet to vote on the package.

Clement expressed his concern: "The U.S. Congress is a place where you get manifestations of protectionist pressures, there's no doubt about that."

"The United States has treaty obligations that they've signed onto, NAFTA is one, the World Trade Organization is another, and we expect the United States to live up to its treaty obligations of open

and fair trade."

Canada exports about \$6 billion in steel to the U.S. annually. **REUTERS**

PM talks tough

• Prime Minister Stephen Harper has asked Washington to withdraw the "Buy America" provision from the stimulus plan, suggesting it violates WTO rules.

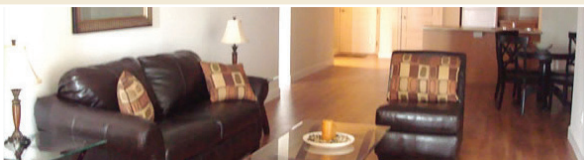


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CAW open to renegotiating contracts

The Canadian Auto Workers union said it is open to negotiating new wage and benefit deals with the Big Three automakers, saying it was forced to act to keep labour costs competitive as the companies restructure in the U.S. The move follows a similar one by the United Auto Workers, the union representing U.S. autoworkers. **REUTERS**

Record \$14.6B full-year loss: Ford

EARNINGS Ford Motor Co. reported a record \$14.6 billion US full-year loss yesterday but said it would have the cash to survive the worst downturn in auto sales in decades without a U.S. government bailout.

Ford plans to cut some 2,500 white-collar jobs and draw down \$10.1 billion US remaining on its credit line after burning through \$5.5 billion US of cash as global auto sales plunged.

The automaker posted a deeper-than-expected \$5.9 billion US fourth quarter net loss. Ford has reported net losses totalling nearly \$30 billion US over the past three years. For the year, Ford burned through \$21 billion US. **REUTERS**

Wii Sales not stacking up

A man looks at Nintendo Co.'s Wii video game consoles stacked up at an electronics shop in Tokyo yesterday. Nintendo said it now expects to sell 26.5 million Wii game consoles in the year to March, down from its previous target of 27.5 million units. **REUTERS**

Obama slams bonuses

U.S. President Barack Obama believes the multibillion-dollar bonuses that Wall Street banks awarded themselves for 2008 are "outrageous," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said yesterday.

The New York comptroller reported this week that Wall Street firms paid out \$18.4 billion US in bonuses to employees, despite receiving multibillion-dollar payouts from the government to save them from collapse in the face of the worst financial crisis in decades.

Gibbs told a news conference that Obama had a one-word reply when he heard of the reports: "outrageous."

"We're not going to be able to do what is needed to be done ... if (people) read about this type of outrageous behaviour."

Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs on Wall Street bonuses

"We're not going to be able to do what is needed to be done to stabilize our financial situation if the American people read about this type of out-

rageous behaviour," Gibbs said.

The New York comptroller said it was unclear if the banks had used taxpayer money for the bonuses but he urged the Obama administration to examine the issue closely.

Gibbs also said the White House believed that the first \$350 billion US of the financial bailout programme had failed to live up to Americans' expectations.

The Obama administration and many lawmakers have said there were too few strings attached to the money released to shore up banks. **REUTERS**



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Four months after one of the tainted food crisis in history, Maple Leaf Foods Inc. has regained all of its lost reputation, enjoying the support of 74 per cent of Canadians. Its head Michael McCain scored higher on credibility than U.S. President Barack Obama on his inauguration day. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

World Economic Forum **Talking finance**



David Ignatius of The Washington Post, from left, Turkey's Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan, Israel's President Shimon Peres, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and Secretary General of the League of Arab States Amr Moussa attend a session at the World Economic Forum in Davos yesterday. The Forum discusses regulation, energy, trade and global security.

Hopes fade for Freedom 55 — or even 65

RETIREMENT As stock market losses take a bite out of retirement savings and pension plans, 48 per cent of employed Canadians be-

lieve they will work beyond the customary retirement age of 65, according to a survey by Sun Life Financial Canada.

A third of respondents said they had changed their retirement plans based on recent economic turmoil. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Nickel ops halted

Vale Inco has stopped shipping nickel concentrate from the Voisey's Bay mine until it hammers out an agreement with Newfoundland and Labrador over a proposed nickel processing plant.

The deadline to come to an agreement over plans for a lower-cost, hydro-metallurgical processing plant in the province had been extended from Dec. 31 to Jan. 22, but that date has now passed with no deal.

Vale Inco has agreed to stop shipping concentrate out of the province to its smelters in Central Canada

until an agreement is reached, a spokesman for the Brazilian firm said.

Until then, Voisey's concentrate is being stockpiled at the mine, while smelters in Sudbury, Ont., and Thompson, Man., will burn through on-site stockpiles.

"They're not shipping now while there's discussions with the province, but it's not something that's expected to impact (metal) production," said Cory McPhee, a spokesman for Vale Inco.

Vale acquired the nickel assets when it took over Inco in 2006.

REUTERS

Web medium of choice for youth

MEDIA Internet usage is growing so quickly across Canada that it will surpass television as the medium of choice in the key 25 to 34-year-old group in under a decade, says a new study presented at Advertising Week in Toronto.

Today, the web ranks over print media, but still below TV and radio, the Canadian Media Usage

Trends Study found.

"People carry their media habits forward as they age" so the high Internet usage among 18 to 24 year-olds today will vault it ahead to the top spot over TV among 25-to-34 year-olds in eight years, predicted Rob Young of research agency PHD Canada, which conducted the study. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

The **DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ**

Consider combo trucks:

The provincial government has allowed Armour Transportation Systems and Sunbury Transport Limited to run long combination vehicles, which use one engine to haul two trailers, as part of a pilot project.

Flight school taking off despite license snag:

An official with the proposed Cape Breton Flight Institute says plans to establish a local flight school are proceeding, despite the fact the school currently does not have a licence.

Resource Group tapped to make fertilizer:

A company based in Bangkok has chosen Sydney-based Resource Group International, Inc. as the site to begin manufacturing organic fertilizer based on fish proteins, which uses less material in production.

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Bosh back to all-star game

Raptors forward Chris Bosh was named to his fourth straight NBA Eastern Conference all-star team Thursday night when the reserves were announced for the Feb. 15 game in Phoenix. The 24-year-old is in the midst of his most productive season, averaging 23.2 points and 9.7 rebounds. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



17

Sports



"It feels like we're taking a step backwards ... They lack knowledge about the present game."

Canadian midfielder Julian de Guzman, in blasting the Canadian Soccer Association on Thursday, saying the organization does not take the game seriously. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SPORTS@METRONews.CA

Rainmen overcome curse

MATTHEW WUEST
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The Halifax Rainmen squeaked by in the fight for first and wiped out the New England curse in the process.

The Rainmen edged the Manchester Millrats 123-119 last night at the Metro Centre, climbing atop the Premier Basketball League's Atlantic Conference and beating a New England PBL team for the first time in their brief franchise history.

It had been 14 games of futility for the Rainmen against the Millrats and the Vermont Frost Heaves.

"I had a bad taste in my mouth since last year

about this," said small forward Brian Silverhorn, who is the only inaugural member of the Rainmen still on the active roster. "It felt really good to finally get a win against those guys."

It was a blowout-turned-nail-biter. Halifax led by 24

Not lovin' it

- The Rainmen gave the crowd of 1,756 a win last night, but some didn't go away happy. Although the Rainmen went 9-of-23 from beyond the arc, they didn't drain the 10 three-pointers required for fans with ticket stubs to win free Big Macs at McDonald's as part of a promotion.

points going into the fourth quarter and barely hung on as the Millrats scorched them for 50 points in the final frame.

Silverhorn enjoyed a heroic return to the lineup after missing five games with a sprained knee, scoring 22 points.

Rainmen forward Rob Sanders, meanwhile, played a huge role in ending a curse he started as a member of the Millrats last season, posting a game-high 30 points and 16 rebounds against his former team. Glen Dandridge added 23 points.

The Rainmen (6-3) visit Vermont (4-3) on Saturday at 2 p.m. and Manchester (5-3) on Sunday at 3:30 p.m.



Rob Sanders shoots over two Manchester Millrats during the first half of Thursday night's PBL game at the Metro Centre.

"We can't celebrate now," said Sanders, who averages a double-double. "It's going to be two

more tough games with all that travel, but we'll pull together and get it going."

Signs in morning, shines at night

RAINMEN Tony Bennett hadn't even practiced with the Halifax Rainmen before throwing on their jersey last night, but he made a pretty solid debut under the circumstances.

The 6-foot guard from Chicago signed first thing yesterday morning and flew in at 2 p.m., then had 12 points and three assists in 15 minutes in a Rainmen home win.

He showed great chemistry with Rob Sanders and broke a full-court press most of the fourth quarter.

"I've been playing basketball since I was five, and it just comes naturally," said Bennett, of stepping right into a new team. "It's just having basketball sense, basketball IQ." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SirValiant sounds off after Rainmen release

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca



SirValiant Brown lambasted the Halifax Rainmen yesterday, a day after being released from their roster.

The 6-foot-1 guard, a former NCAA Division 1 star, called the year-long suspension of star Eric Crookshank "bogus," described Rick Lewis's coaching skills as "questionable," and said owner Andre Livingston "stabbed me in the back."

Brown, who admitted to being a greedy shooter in the past, said he came to Halifax with a commitment to shoot the ball less

and share it more to take his game to the next level. He said that's what Livingston told him he needed to do.

That's why he said he was stunned when Livingston told Metro Halifax Brown hadn't produced enough. He was averaging 7.1 points per game through eight contests.

"If they wanted me to do what they say they wanted me to do, why not let me take more shots, or put me in positions on the court so I can do the things I do best?" he asked.

He said he was offered a more lucrative six-figure contract in France on Jan. 9, but decided not to leave Halifax after getting positive

feedback from Livingston. "They were still stating, 'You're playing well, you're doing the things we asked you to do,'" the 26-year-old said. "A (few weeks later), he stabs me in the back."

Brown called Lewis's rotation of minutes "crap," saying the head coach subs out shooters when they're heating up and fails to sub out players who continuously miss.

He also said the offence is disorganized with very few plays, particularly for clutch, last-minute situations.

"We just put a basic pick-and-roll into the offence last week," Brown said. "We should have done that Day 1. Coach don't know

how to coach. He's a trainer. A good trainer.

"But they have the most talent in the league and they aren't going to win a championship with him coaching."

Crookshank, meanwhile, was suspended earlier this year for "conduct detrimental to the team." Brown said the 6-foot-8 forward "didn't do anything wrong."

"The worst thing he did was have an attitude after a loss because he don't like losing," Brown said. "He definitely deserves to be on this team. He stated his opinion (about floor time) like a man, and basically, they used him as a scapegoat."



"We just put a basic pick-and-roll into the offence last week. Coach don't know how to coach. He's a trainer. A good trainer."

SirValiant Brown

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Our Super blogger



For all things Super Bowl, check out Laurence Heinen's blog all weekend at metronews.ca/blogs

Prop it up on Sunday

NFL
Super Bowl XLIII

At some point in the past decade or so, merely wagering on the outcomes of Super Bowl games themselves became insufficient and unsatisfactory for the general public — and so bookmakers introduced what we commonly refer to these days as prop bets.

The bookies — whether from Las Vegas, your local neighbourhood, online

gambling services or even your favourite government lottery — began to lure extra revenue by giving bettors opportunities to lay down shekels on props such as the number of passes a quarterback would complete in the Super Bowl or how many tackles a linebacker would record.

These were relatively sensible, understandable game-related matters.

Some-where along the way, however, bookies decided it was prudent to appease degenerates who needed action on virtually anything and everything on Super Bowl Sundays,

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca



Kurt Warner's wife Brenda, right, became a media attraction when he played for the Rams. You too can bet on how many times she's shown on TV Sunday.

like the coin toss (heads or tails) or whether a specified kicker would score more points than a specified forward playing in an NHL match at the same time.

Well, prop bets have reached a new high (low?) for this Sunday's Super Bowl between the Pittsburgh Steelers and Arizona Cardinals. Consider these two props being offered by a handful of books:

A) An over/under (3.5) on how many times the television broadcast will cut to shots of **Brenda Warner**, wife of Cards QB **Kurt Warner**.

B) An over/under (nine) on how many times the broadcasters will refer to Pittsburgh quarterback **Ben Roethlisberger** as Big Ben.

Weird, eh? Just think: Folks involved in the broadcast (directors in the case of the Warner prop and announcers in the case of the Roethlisberger one) have complete control over these developments.

What's to prevent them from advising their relatives to bet all they can on the overs, and then ensure they cut to Brenda four times or mention Big Ben 10 times?

And if you doubt this can happen, consider this: A recent survey revealed nobody is less trusted in this world than media types.

• Flakiest players in Sunday's game:

The kickers, hands down. Or, should I say, feet down?

"I don't know why," Steelers kicker **Jeff Reed** divulged, "but I bend

Berger's finale?

• Sunday's Super Bowl could be Mitch Berger's NFL swan song. The Steelers punter, 36, is a B.C. native and has an off-season home in Arizona. After the NFL, he'd like to become a football reporter.

down to change the sock on my kicking foot at the start of each quarter."

Cards kicker **Neil Rackers**, meanwhile, always eats pre-game meals consisting of spaghetti and precisely three meatballs, which to him represents the number of points he aims to produce on each of his field-goal attempts.

• Sunday may well be the final Arizona appearances for three key offensive players.

Warner, receiver **Anquan Boldin** and running back **Edgerrin James** will all be eligible for free agency.

James produced respectably near the end of this season but mostly flopped with the Cards, who'll likely pursue a younger, cheaper back. Boldin has said he won't re-sign because, in his view, management lied to him by not following through on a promise to grant him a new contract before the season. Warner thinks the Cards owe him \$500,000 US from a 2007 incentive and he won't re-sign unless that's factored into a new deal.

All three would attract considerable attention on the free-agent market.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

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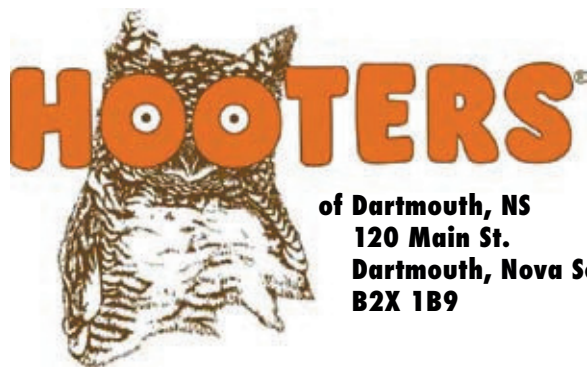
No comps for Miss America

SUPER BOWL A Miss America beauty queen has been unable to get a ticket to Sunday's Super Bowl after becoming the first woman from the state of Indiana to claim the honour last weekend. Katie Stam has been invited to Tampa to take part in a charity event on Saturday. "We have no tickets, I love football and I'd love to go to the game," Stam told Reuters.

REUTERS

Sports in brief

SUPER BOWL Steelers receiver Hines Ward participated in Thursday's practice, the first time he has tested his sprained knee since suffering the injury in the AFC championship game. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



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Ring-leader pleads not guilty

A Massachusetts man accused of being behind a jewelry heist involving stolen New York Giants Super Bowl rings was ordered held on \$3-million US cash bail Thursday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

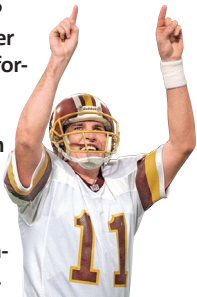
sports **19****Super Bowl XLIII**

All-time Canadian Super Bowl content

This year's CanCon

Mark Rypien

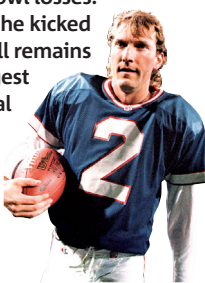
Born in Calgary and raised in Spokane, Wash., Rypien became the only Canadian-born player to win a Super Bowl MVP award after going 18-for-33 for 292 yards and two TDs in Washington's 37-24 victory over Buffalo in 1992.

**Jack Kent Cooke**

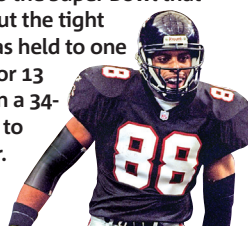
The Toronto businessman became a U.S. citizen by an act of Congress in 1960 and bought the Washington Redskins. Under his ownership, the Skins won three Super Bowl titles in four tries – one quarter-backed by Rypien, the other by former CFL star Joe Theismann.

**Steve Christie**

The soccer player-turned kicker from suburban Toronto joined the Bills in 1992, and played in two of Buffalo's four Super Bowl losses. In 1994, he kicked what still remains the longest field goal in Super Bowl history at 54 yards.

**O.J. Santiago**

The product of Toronto sports power St. Mike's entered NFL lore in 1998 when he invented the "Dirty Bird" a fairly ugly dance routine performed after Falcon touchdowns. Atlanta went to the Super Bowl that year, but the tight end was held to one catch for 13 yards in a 34-19 loss to Denver.

**Nick Kaczur**

The big tackle from Wayne Gretzky's hometown of Brantford, Ont. joined the Patriots in 2005 and became part of the vaunted offensive line in front of Tom Brady. He started at right tackle for New England in last year's Super Bowl loss to the Giants.



Steelers punter Mitch Berger of Kamloops, B.C.

The top 5 Super Bowls – so far

JOHN CHICK
john.chick@metronews.ca

**XXV**

Jan. 27, 1991

Giants 20, Bills 19

Set against the backdrop of the first Gulf War, the high-powered no-huddle Buffalo Bills offence entered Super Bowl XXV having scored 95 points in two playoff games, and were 10-point favourites over the ball-control, grind-it-out New York Giants. In the only Super Bowl where neither team turned the ball over once, the Parcels-Belichick Giants defence held Buffalo's K-Gun offence in check and ate up the clock to the tune of 40:33 in time of possession. Thurman Thomas's dramatic 31-yard touchdown run on the first play of the fourth quarter gave the Bills a two-point lead, but after a 10-minute New York drive ended in a Matt Bahr field goal, the Bills desperately drove back downfield, setting up a Scott Norwood 47-yard game winning field goal. He missed wide right, with seven seconds on the clock.

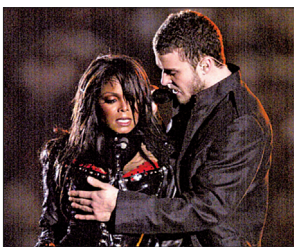
XLII

Feb. 3, 2008

Giants 17, Patriots 14

The New England Patriots arrived in Arizona for Super Bowl XLIII 18-0, only the second undefeated regular season team in NFL history. But the wild-card New York Giants came in riding a wave of momentum. New England had a season-low seven points at halftime, leading only by four. In the fourth quarter the Pats appeared to take control when Tom Brady hooked up with Randy Moss on a six-yard touchdown pass, but on the ensuing Giants drive Eli Manning escaped a sack and found David Tyree on 3rd and 5 with a near-miracle 32-yard first down completion with 1:15 left.

The Giants then punched in the Super Bowl-winning score when Plaxico Burress caught a 13-yard TD pass from Manning.

**XXXVIII**

Feb. 1, 2004

Patriots 32, Panthers 29

In a game better known for Justin Timberlake's cheap feel on Janet Jackson, spun by the machine into a "wardrobe malfunction," the Patriots again found themselves involved in one of the greatest Super Bowls ever, this time against the Carolina Panthers. Carolina held a one-point lead with under seven minutes left, but after trading touchdowns in the last three minutes, a penalty on the Panthers kickoff would set up Adam Vinatieri's second last minute Super Bowl-winning field goal in three years.

XXXVI

Feb. 3, 2002

Patriots 20, Rams 17

The Patriots were pit-

ted against the favoured St. Louis Rams and their "Greatest Show on Turf" offence. The plucky Pats and fledgling QB Tom Brady opened up a shocking 14-3 lead at half-time before Kurt Warner and the Rams offence responded in the fourth quarter, tying the game at 17 with 1:30 left in the game. The Brady legend planted its seeds in the next minute and 23 seconds as he led New England downfield, setting up Adam Vinatieri's game-winning 48-yard field goal.

XXXIV

Jan. 30, 2000

Rams 23, Titans 16

The first Super Bowl of the new millennium was as boring as they come for most of the game, with the St. Louis Rams leading Tennessee 16-0 midway through the third. But after the Titans scored 16 unanswered points, St. Louis got its record-setting offence going, with Kurt Warner throwing a 73-yard TD

97.5

• Million U.S. TV viewers who watched last year's Super Bowl, an all-time high.

strike to Isaac Bruce with under seven minutes left. Scrambling to tie the game, Steve McNair and the Titans moved the ball downfield, and with six seconds left and no timeouts, McNair hit Kevin Dyson on a slant pass inside the Rams' 3. However St. Louis linebacker Mike Jones was shadowing Dyson and immediately tackled him at the one-yard line as time expired.



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Mooseheads happy for Pender's return

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Mooseheads are hoping their power play gets a boost with the return of Justin Pender from injury.

The Mooseheads, puttering along with the worst power play in the QMJHL with a 14.5 per cent conversion rate, will welcome the hard-shooting blue-liner back to the lineup Friday after a seven-game absence with an abdominal strain. They're on a three-game road trip to Quebec, starting against the last-

place Val-d'Or Foreurs at 8:30 p.m.

"The power play is the No. 1 thing we need to get better at, and getting Pender back is definitely going to help."

Cam Russell, Mooseheads head coach

"The power play is the No. 1 thing we need to get better at, and getting Pender back is definitely going to help."

Pender back is definitely going to help," said Mooseheads head coach Cam Russell. "We're not getting enough pucks to the net and our puck recovery hasn't been great."

Pender was used as a forward in two games before he got hurt, but Russell said he'll stay mostly on the blue line.

It's a battle for last place with the Foreurs, as both teams are tied in the Q basement with just 31 points apiece. After that, they face the mid-tier Rouyn-Noranda Huskies (Saturday, 8:30 p.m.) and the Montreal Junior (Monday, 8 p.m.).

"These are teams we can compete with," Russell said. "These are big four-point games and we've got to be ready."

The Mooseheads will be without defenceman George Dunn (flu) all weekend, while forward Eric Louis-Seize (shoulder) will be a game-day decision. Veteran goaltender Mark Yetman will get the starting nod against the Foreurs.

Halifax is 13-30-3-2 and is 2-5-2-1 in its last 10. There are 20 games remaining in the regular season.



The Mooseheads' Justin Pender has been out of commission for seven games following an abdominal injury.

Sports in brief

BASKETBALL St. Francis Xavier X-Men basketball assistant coach and former all-star Garry Gallimore had not been publicly disciplined by either Atlantic University Sport or his team as of late Thursday. Gallimore allegedly hit a minor official in the head at a game hosted by the Cape Breton Capers on Wednesday. The alleged incident occurred in the final minute of the Capers' 90-86 win after a debate over a timeout. CBU president John Harker said that he is "seeking to ensure the AUS deals with this situation."

THE CAPE BRETON POST

NHL Price is wrong



Florida Panthers Richard Zednik (not shown) scores a goal against Montreal Canadiens goalie Carey Price during the second period in Sunrise, Fla. last night. Florida won 5-1.

SCOREBOARD

QMJHL					FRIDAY				
ATLANTIC DIVISION					HALIFAX at Val-d'Or, 8:30				
W	L	OT	P		W	L	OT	P	
Moncton	36	8	5	77	SATURDAY				
Cape Breton	36	13	2	74	HALIFAX at Rouyn-Noranda, 8:30				
Saint John	26	22	4	56					
P.E.I.	19	24	9	47					
Bathurst	17	23	10	44					
HALIFAX	13	30	5	31					
PBL					ATLANTIC CONFERENCE				
					W	L	PCT		
					HALIFAX	6	3	.667	
					SATURDAY				
					HALIFAX at Vermont, 2				
					SUNDAY				
					HALIFAX at Manchester, 3:30				

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Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Love's leading lady

Pg 24



Renee Zellweger plays an ambitious executive who temporarily relocates to wintry New Ulm, Minn., in *New in Town*, the latest romantic comedy outing for this female-favourite actress.

movies

Pg 25



Preview of *Star Trek* shows sexier, edgier new vision.

music

Pg 29



Franz Ferdinand explain the new techno/disco sound.

7th heaven

Pg 35



Why does this sexy Spanish actress make our hot list?

entertainment

Pg 33



Jazz singer dips into classics from the 1930s and '40s.

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Nothing new in Town

New in Town

Director: Jonas Elmer

Stars: Renée Zellweger, Harry Connick Jr.

Classification: PG

Rating: ●½

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



Maybe it's solely because she's so connected to the role of Bridget Jones but Renée Zellweger has become one of those elusive actresses that women love and men are completely indifferent about. You know, like Meg Ryan.

It's not that Zellweger's unattractive or that she can't act but in her romantic comedy *New in Town*, she's definitely struggling to breathe life into a rather repeated premise and some pretty drowsy dialogue.

Zellweger plays an ambitious executive who temporarily relocates to wintry New Ulm, Minn., in or-



Harry Connick Jr. plays a union boss and Renée Zellweger an ambitious executive who butt heads but end up falling for each other in the romantic comedy *New in Town*.

der to advance her career by overseeing the shut-down of a manufacturing plant.

There, she meets an array of faceless factory workers, tapioca-obsessed rubes and the plant's ruggedly handsome, but overly serious union boss

(Harry Connick Jr.) who's determined to ensure workers don't lose their job. Can you guess whom she reluctantly takes an interest in?

The set-up of course is sound enough for a rom-com. You might even expect a myriad of delightful dis-

On the web

• For a *New In Town* trailer, and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

agreements between the two opposing would-be lovers.

But you'd be wrong. Instead, *New in Town* overlooks the first rule of the rom-com: The two leads must hate each other unequivocally. Here, the pair's aversion turns to adoration with disappointing, unfunny and anticlimactic haste.

That said, at least Danish director Jonas Elmer knew his audience well enough to cast not only female fave Zellweger, but also Connick Jr. (who's actually not bad after a dreadful turn in 2007's *P.S. I Love You*).

However, while the pair may make this rom-com tolerable to some female filmgoers, *New in Town* will have most people breathlessly counting down the seconds to departure.

Lights, camera, lock lips

InFocus

Richard Crouse



mrchaos33@hotmail.com

More than any other film genre romantic comedy suffers from a bad case of predictability. How many times have we seen two unlikely people beat the odds to become a happy couple by the time the credits roll? Dorky Harry meets beautiful Sally. *Pretty Woman of the Night* seduced by suave rich guy. It's déjà vu all over again.

The trick to making a good rom-com is to make the journey — how the characters wind up locking lips at the film's end — interesting.

New In Town, the latest from Renée Zellweger does this by moving the action out of New York, where all

great romantic comedies are set, to Minnesota.

This location twist is often used in romantic comedies, the trademarked Drew Barrymore rom-com. On film Drew has fallen in love in Hawaii (*50 First Dates*), Boston (*Fever Pitch*) and everywhere in between.

Barrymore, of course, isn't to blame for the state of rom-coms. Neither is Kate or Reese. They're just mimicking an age old formula.

Trouble in Paradise, an Ernst Lubitsch classic from 1932, follows the structure and it could be argued that Shakespeare was the architect of the rom-com.

So why, after half a millennium, do romantic comedies still thrill audiences? I think it's primal. Deep down we all love a happy ending and while real life relationships might not always work, it's assured that when Harry meets Sally, it will be forever. That kind of certainty, no matter how unreal, keeps us coming back for more.

Richard Crouse is the author of *Son of the 100 Best Movies You've Never Seen* and film critic for CTV's Canada AM.

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Green Hornet still on: Rogen

Seth Rogen has denied The Green Hornet movie has been cancelled. The actor — who is set to play the titular superhero — has quashed claims Sony has dropped the project after director Kevin Smith pulled out.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

New take on Trek

Sexier approach in franchise reboot

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada



Paramount came to Toronto with roughly 30 minutes of completed footage from its summer blockbuster reboot of Star Trek last week. The preview reel opened with an intro from director J.J. Abrams (the absurdly rich creator of Alias and Lost) who openly admitted to not being a huge fan of the series.

The news isn't great for the obsessive Trekkies whose encyclopedic knowledge of the franchise can be terrifyingly thorough and purist, but it won't necessarily be a problem for the moviegoing public at large.

From the footage screened, it seems that rather than creating a geek-centric origin story that all the die-hard fans have already written in the heads, Abrams is attempting a Casino Royale-style franchise reboot that will stay true to the established universe while also reinventing and expanding the possibilities of the series for more demanding contemporary audiences.

The sneak peek showed an updated Kirk with a far more developed sense of bad-assery than camp icon William Shatner ever brought to the role. This Kirk is a more active, arrogant, and ambitious character,

Movie feature

acter, unafraid to get his hands bloody.

This change in character seems to be representative of the new take on the franchise as a whole, which combines kinetic action storytelling with the classic Star Trek logic-driven allegorical sci-fi.

"Whether or not that will come at the expense of alienating some members of the world's most devoted fanbase remains to be seen, but at least it looks like this probably won't be another Phantom Menace debacle."

That said, there is still a concern that this younger, faster, sexier approach will breed a Dawson Creek In Space reboot that will lack the intellectual depth that has defined the series to this point.

While some of the actors do look like they were cast for their pretty head-

shots rather than acting abilities, the footage did showcase some eccentric character work from Simon Pegg that suggests some deeper three-dimensional characterizations this time around.

We won't know if Abrams' experiment works until the May release, but one thing is for sure: The scale and action of this film will be on a whole other level than previous Trek outings.

Abrams has come a long way since the limited but impressive action set pieces on Alias and based on the early footage, the action in his Star Trek alone will create new fans.

Whether or not that will come at the expense of

alienating some members of the world's most devoted fanbase remains to be seen, but at least it looks like this probably won't be another Phantom Menace debacle.



A scene from the upcoming Star Trek. The J.J. Abrams-directed film aims to draw in more fans by adding a more contemporary approach to the franchise's origin story.

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—Stuart Lee, WNYX-TV

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Oscar ballots mailed out

AWARDS Will the Oscar go to Button or Milk, or will Slumdog be top dog next month?

Final Oscar ballots were mailed to some 5,800 members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, who will cast their votes for the best 2008 movie, actor, actress, director and 20 other categories, organizers said.

The ballots — still on paper despite the dominance of e-mail and text messaging — are due back on Feb. 17, just ahead of the Feb.

The 81st Annual Academy Awards

22 Oscar ceremony in Hollywood where the movie industry's highest honours are handed out.

They will be tabulated by accounting firm Price-waterhouseCoopers, which has never seen a breach of security concerning the winners in its 75 years of handling the Oscar ballots.

REUTERS

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Psychic sci-fi propels Push

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

When *Push* hits theatres next Friday, it won't just be the latest science fiction thriller to hit the multiplexes; it'll be a small glimpse into a shadowy world that conspiracists have professed to be true for decades.

To most, the notion that someone being able to psychically "push" thoughts and emotions into somebody else's mind may be far-fetched but to others — like director Paul McGuigan, it may not be so preposterous.

"I was on the Internet looking at remote viewing for instance," said the director during a recent phone interview.

"Remote viewing (is a notion that) you can have special powers that enable you to be outside a room, (but) you can tell what's inside the room.

"That's kind of crazy but



Dakota Fanning, centre, on the set of *Push*. The young actor plays a teen who has the ability to self-induce visions of the future in the upcoming sci-fi thriller.

there are people who are experts at this that have been used by government agencies for years and years."

Push is definitely not shying away from that concept either. Featuring a wide array of abilities, this thriller focuses on a group of gifted young psychics on the run from a seedy government agency that's trying to wrangle

them for experimental purposes. Although the premise of gifted clairvoyants and psychic bloodhounds are fascinating enough, McGuigan didn't get too wrapped up in the conspiracy.

"I always just thought of this as a sci-fi thriller — sort of a film noir in the sci-fi world and I kept it very much grounded there."

Movie feature

Perhaps the film's most intriguing character is 13-year-old Cassie Holmes, a "watcher" who has the ability to self-induce visions of the future. Played by Dakota Fanning (*Charlotte's Web*), *Push* also marks a noticeably darker shift in the talented child star's acting career.

"She basically reads (a script) and decides how she wants to play it," said McGuigan about his impressive leading lady. The director behind acclaimed films like *Wicker Park* and *Lucky Number Slevin* has even recently called Fanning the "best actor he's ever worked with."

"It's the poise; it is just knowing that life is not that complicated. We kind of gather the complications of life as we get older and she really hasn't done that," said McGuigan. "I can't imagine what she's going to be like in ten years time."

Neeson owns Taken

Taken

Director: Pierre Morel

Stars: Liam Neeson

Classification: 14A

Rating: ●●●●½

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

REVIEW A frenetic cross between the Bourne trilogy and Steven Soderbergh's underappreciated revenge flick *The Limey*, *Taken* is a bright light after a month full of mediocrity.

Directed by Pierre Morel (*District 13*) from a Luc Besson (*The Transporter*) script, Liam Neeson stars as Bryan Mills, a retired CIA agent who wants nothing more than to make up for lost time with his 17-year-old daughter Kim (played by Maggie Grace).

Now spoiled by her snotty mother and rich stepdad (she even gets a pony for her birthday!), Kim is leaving for Paris against Brian's overly concerned wishes.

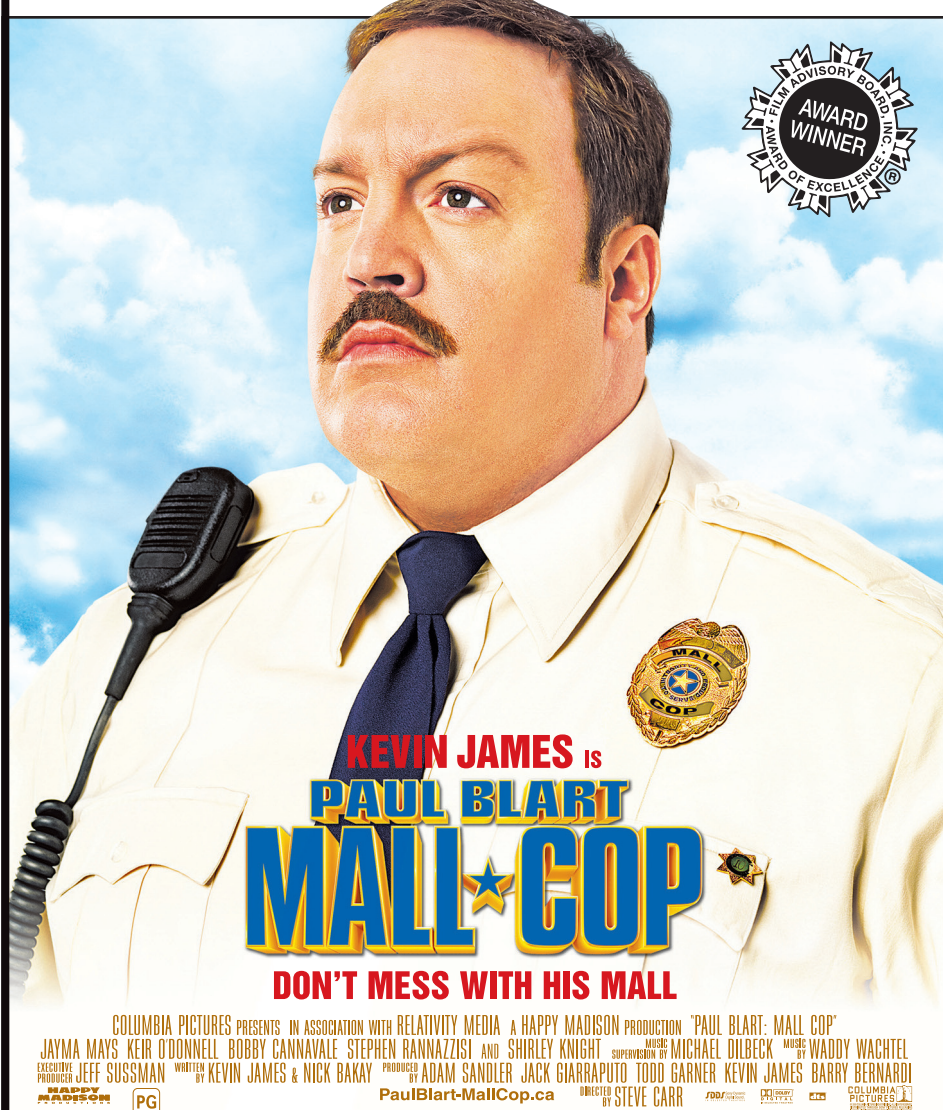
As it turns out, he's right. Although it takes nearly a third of the film to get there, Kim and a friend arrive in Paris only to be carted off by Albanian sex traffickers while she's on the phone with daddy. This is where *Taken* kicks into overdrive.

"I will find you and I will kill you," Brian tells his daughter's faceless kidnapper before immediately jumping on a jet to begin breaking laws and banging heads in order to save his daughter.

Neeson is near perfect as the vengeful father who's not afraid to get blood on his hands. With unspoken ease, he exhibits a commanding presence and a surprising prowess with the punches — especially given that he's now in his fifties.

Taken should have no problem selling seats with its stunning fight choreography, compelling high-speed chases and guiltless attempts to please fans of the genre but in the end, Neeson's performance is the real reason *Taken* is worth taking in.

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Radcliffe stunt double injured on Harry Potter set

Daniel Radcliffe's stunt double has reportedly been hospitalized after an explosion on the Harry Potter set. The unnamed 25-year-old suffered horrific injuries after a flying sequence using a harness went wrong. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

In defence of Slumdog

The makers of Slumdog Millionaire have defended their treatment of child actors taken from the slums of Mumbai where the rags-to-riches tale, nominated for 10 Oscars, is set.

In recent weeks the movie's success around the world has been overshadowed by objections in India to the name, which some slum dwellers find offensive, its depiction of the lives of impoverished Indians and the treatment of the cast.

Earlier this week Britain's Daily Telegraph quoted the parents of Rubina Ali and Azharuddin Ismail, who play slum kids Latika and Salim respectively, complaining that their children had not been cared for properly by the movie's makers.

Ismail's father told the newspaper that there was no money left and that he knows nothing of a promised trust fund set up for his son. Ali's father is quoted as saying "the money they paid us is nothing. They should pay more."

The report said Ali received 500 pounds for filming and Ismail 1,700 pounds.

Slumdog producer Christian Colson said figures quoted in the British press were inaccurate.

"They were well paid for



A scene from Slumdog Millionaire. Despite the universal acclaim the Danny Boyle-directed film is receiving, some have objected to its depiction of the lives of impoverished Indians and the treatment of the cast.

the work that they did," he told Reuters in Los Angeles, when asked about the reports.

"The figures quoted in the U.K. press are inaccurate. The suggestion that they (the children) worked for a year is also inaccurate.

"Immediately after we cast the kids, we put in place a plan of action for their future welfare, over and above the money we paid them; we did that in consultation with their parents."

He said the producers enrolled them in school for the first time in their lives and set up a fund to pay for the cost of their education, medical emergencies and "basic living costs."

Danny Boyle, the film's British director, added:

"What you've got to do is somehow try and get a plan that isn't about the absolute immediate, it's about the long-term benefit for the kids.

"If we can give them

something back, that will benefit them throughout their lives, that's what you want to achieve." Boyle also addressed objections to the film's name.

Nicholas Almeida, a social activist and slum dweller, has filed a complaint in a local Indian court against Boyle and Colson, saying the film's title was damaging and discriminating.

"When the British ruled India, they called Indians

"Immediately after we cast the kids, we put in place a plan of action for their future welfare, over and above the money we paid them."

Producer
Christian Colson

'dogs'. Why do we want to call these poor children 'dogs' 60 years after we got independence?" he told Reuters earlier this week.

Also this week protesters, mainly slum dwellers, tore down posters and ransacked a movie theatre showing the film in the Bihar state capital Patna.

Boyle said protest was "part of the fabric of life in India ... For us, 'slumdog' was always a very affectionate term because ... it was a hybrid, a mixture of underdog and rooting for the underdog, and obviously he comes from the slums." Despite the objections, many Indians are celebrating the movie's commercial and critical success. The cast and crew were awarded for Global Excellence of the Year at the NDTV news channel's Indian of the Year awards.

REUTERS

Studios, SAG set for talks

CONTRACT The Screen Actors Guild and Hollywood's major studios will restart labour contract talks on Feb. 3, both groups said in statements signaling a thaw in their chilly relations.

SAG, which represents some 120,000 U.S. actors, and the studio's representative, the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, will hold a new round of negotiations next Tuesday and Wednesday, the groups said late Wednesday.

No further details were given and the groups said they would not comment further.

The announcements follow the ouster of SAG's chief labour negotiator Doug Allen earlier this week by moderates of SAG's national governing board.

SAG members have been without a film and prime-time TV contract since their old pact expired June 30, after negotiations collapsed and the studios presented what they called their "final" offer.

The two sides were most at odds over how actors should be paid for work on the Internet, seen as a main distribution pipeline for entertainment in the future.

REUTERS

Narnia film at Fox 2000

PROJECT The Voyage of the Dawn Treader — the third instalment of the Chronicles of Narnia franchise — will be setting sail from a new port.

The Walden Media project, which was let go by Walt Disney Pictures last month, is landing at Fox 2000, a unit of 20th Century Fox, which will develop it with an eye to release the movie in the holiday season of 2010.

Many of the key players are expected to stay with the project, including director Michael Apted and actor Ben Barnes, though a new writer might come aboard.

Because of the epic scope — and accompanying production costs — of the

books, Walden partnered with Disney to produce and co-finance the adaptations. Disney backed out of Dawn Treader after failing to come to an agreement with Walden over budgets and release-date issues. Although the first instalment, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, was an unabashed hit, the second, Prince Caspian, ran over budget and performed below the studio's expectations at the box office.

The third film faces creative as well as budgetary challenges. Although the C.S. Lewis book features quests, dragons and sea monsters galore, the story also has been criticized for lacking a clear antagonist.

REUTERS

Entertainment in brief

BIOPIC The writer who took on Daniel Pearl will tackle the creator of 007. John Orloff, who wrote the script for A Mighty Heart about the slain Wall Street Journal reporter, has been hired to pen the screen-

play for Fleming, a biopic about writer Ian Fleming, the creator of James Bond. The feature will look at critical moments in the life of the colourful novelist and journalist.

REUTERS

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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 30 TO THURS., FEB 5. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

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190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

Bedtime Stories (G) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-7
Bride Wars (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:25-9:50
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-4:30-8:15
Defiance (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Sun 3:30-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:25
Gran Torino (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:35
Hotel for Dogs (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-6:40-9:20
Inkheart (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Mon 12:50-3:35-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Tue 12:50-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Wed-Thu 12:50-3:35-6:35-9:10
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 3:35-6:55-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sun 3:35-9:45
Marley & Me (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:40
Milk (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:30
New In Town (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-7:05-9:40
Notorious (18) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 9:40
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-4-6:55-9:20
Revolutionary Road (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:05-4:15-6:55-9:35 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:05-4:15-6:55-9:30
Slumdog Millionaire (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-4-6:50-9:40

Taken (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:45-7:30-10
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:20-10:05
The Uninvited (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-7:15-9:50
The Wrestler (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:15-9:55

IMAX
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-6:30
The Day the Earth Stood Still: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:40

OXFORD THEATRE
6408 Quinpool Rd.
902-423-7488

Slumdog Millionaire (STC) Fri 6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:30

PARK LANE
5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860

Frost/Nixon (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon 3:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:10
Gran Torino (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:50-3:25-6:40-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:25-6:40-9:15
Opus Arte: La Fille Mal Gardée (Ballet) (STC) Stadium Seating Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:40-4:10-7:30-9:45 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7:30-9:45
The Reader (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-3:20-6:20-9

Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:20-6:20-9

Taken (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-3:40-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-7-9:20
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat 7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-9:30
The Uninvited (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:30-4-7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:20-9:40
The Wrestler (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-3:45-6:50-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9:25

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Gran Torino (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:40-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Hotel for Dogs (G) Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:10-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 7-9:20 Stadium Seating Thu 6:30
Inkheart (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:20-6:40-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10
New In Town (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10-3:30-6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50
Taken (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3-7:10-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:15-9:30 Stadium

Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-7:15-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

DARTMOUTH
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Bedtime Stories (G) Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:50
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri 7:30 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 7:30
Defiance (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:10-6:30-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20
Frost/Nixon (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 2:20-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 6:35-9:10
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 6:50-9
Marley & Me (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:40-6:45 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:45
Notorious (18) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 9:25
The Reader (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:30-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:40-9:15

DARTMOUTH CROSSING
145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing
902-481-3251

Bride Wars (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:30-10
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 8:55
Doubt (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40
Gran Torino (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:25-6:30-9:35

Hotel for Dogs (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:25
Inkheart (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:05-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Tue 1:25-4:15-7:05-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1:25-4:15-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:25-4:15-7:05-9:40
My Bloody Valentine 3D (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 3:40-6:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 3:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:40-6:40-9:40
New In Town (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:45-9:30
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:25-9:55
Revolutionary Road (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4-6:55-9:45
Slumdog Millionaire (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-6:45-9:40
Taken (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:35
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:35-7-9:25
The Uninvited (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:20-7:20-9:50

TRURO
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20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook
902-895-8020

Gran Torino (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9 Stadium Seating Sat 2-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Sun 2-6:30-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-8:50
Hotel for Dogs (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat 2:20-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sun 2:20-6:40-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9

Inkheart (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:05 Stadium Seating Sat 2:10-6:40-9:05 Stadium Seating Sun 2:10-8:55 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:35-8:55
Nights in Rodanthe (PG) Stadium Seating Sun 7
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat 2:50-7:20-9:25 Stadium Seating Sun 2:50-6:55-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:55-9:15
Taken (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat 2:40-7:10-9:20 Stadium Seating Sun 2:40-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:10
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The Uninvited (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:30-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat 3-7:30-9:30 Stadium Seating Sun 3-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:20

BRIDGEWATER
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Gran Torino (14) Fri 6:35-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:05-6:35-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:35-9:15
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 6:30-8:55 Sat-Sun 2-6:30-8:55 Mon-Thu 6:30-8:55
Inkheart (STC) Fri 6:45 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:45 Mon-Thu 6:45
New In Town (STC) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:25-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25
Notorious (18) Fri-Thu 9:20
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 7:15-9:35 Sat-Sun 2:45-7:15-9:35 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:35
Taken (STC) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Sun 2:10-6:40-9 Mon-Thu 6:40-9
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (STC) Fri 6:50-9:10 Sat-Sun 2:15-6:50-9:10 Mon 6:50-9:10 Tue-Wed 9:10 Thu 6:50-9:10

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PRODUCED BY BOB KANE AND PRODUCED BY DC COMICS STORY BY CHRISTOPHER NOLAN & DAVID S. Goyer SCREENPLAY BY JONATHAN NOLAN AND CHRISTOPHER NOLAN PRODUCED BY CHARLES ROVEN EMMA THOMAS CHRISTOPHER NOLAN DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER NOLAN

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The top pop albums, according to Billboard Magazine

1. Fearless, Taylor Swift; 2. I AM...SASHA FIERCE, Beyoncé; 3. Dark Horse, Nickelback; 4. 808s and Heartbreak, Kanye West; 5. Twilight Soundtrack, Various Artists. **REUTERS**



Take Me Out, again

Franz Ferdinand shake things up on third album

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada



Since 2004, Glasgow four-some Franz Ferdinand have been hammering out disco-infused indie rock. Not only did they become one of the biggest bands in the world with their massive hit *Take Me Out*, but they started a new wave revolution, with acts like Maximo Park and Bloc Party following in their footsteps.

But success isn't an antidote for boredom, so on Tonight: Franz Ferdinand, the group's third full-length, the band decided to shake things up.

"You've got to push yourselves to try new things," says Alex Kapranos, the band's lead singer. "If we kept on doing what we have been for the rest of our lives, it would have been boring. We're keep-

ing things exciting for ourselves and the people listening to it."

While not every track is a major departure — No You Girls might be the band's most infectious dance rocker to date — other songs are nearly unrecognizable. Lucid Dreams, for one, is an eight-minute keyboard driven electro anthem.

"That track was cut down from a 40 minute session," says Kapranos. "That song has quite a different dynamic to it — it's much more dance floor. We'd been listening to a lot of mixes, where you build in a slow gradual way and bring the listener up. We're using different techniques than verse, chorus, verse."

It's easy for a band to try new things, but what happens if their fans hate it? Like every musician, Kapranos says he writes

"If we kept on doing what we have been for the rest of our lives it would have been boring. We're keeping things exciting for ourselves and the people listening to it." Alex Kapranos

for himself, not to sell records, but he did make sure to play his new songs live before releasing them.

"Part of developing a new sound is playing it to the fans," he explains. "We played a bunch of smaller shows in Glasgow and the States."

"Doing that helps you know what's working or what's not. You can try out the most crazy experimental ideas and sometimes it

works."

Still, some fans may be curious as to what Kapranos was referring to, when in the band's new bio, he says that the disc is an album "to fling yourself around your room as you psyche yourself for an evening of hedonism."

Don't worry, Tonight is not an all out techno record, but it does take their disco-friendly tunes to new, ass-shaking heights. That's thanks to their copious use of synths. "We wanted to go with a dance floor feel," says Franz's frontman. "There were a lot of keyboards around the studio and we wanted to use them."

"But we've always been interested in this kind of music," he adds. "Whether it's the heavy kick drum on *Take Me Out*, we've always tried to harness this in a different way. This



Tonight, Franz Ferdinand's new album, was released this week.

time the bass is really the heart of the record."

But it wasn't just a love of dance music that drove the band to beef up their club-ready sounds. They felt like they needed to rebel.

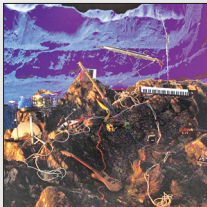
"When we first got together we were rebelling against the sounds that were around us. We didn't

feel indie guitar music had the dance floor feel, and the dance floor didn't have the sounds of indie rock. But with any band who tries something new it becomes absorbed and part of the surroundings," Kapranos explains. "So with this, we're rebelling against the appropriation of ourselves."

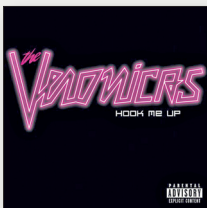
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THE VERONICAS, HOOK ME UP: Sassy sisters deliver energetic electro-pop that's sleek enough for playlists that include names like Britney and Pink. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

British singer John Martyn dies

DEATH British singer-songwriter John Martyn, who played alongside Phil Collins and Pink Floyd's David Gilmour, has died at age 60, his publicist said Thursday.

The jazz and folk-influenced musician was known for his virtuoso guitar playing and drawling vocals. Martyn released a series of critically acclaimed albums but always remained on the fringes of the mainstream music scene. "I don't think of myself as anything, I just lurch along from one thing to another," he told Reuters in 1993. **REUTERS**

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

1. Poker Face Lady Gaga
2. Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
3. Heartless Kanye West
4. Sex On Fire Kings Of Leon
5. Beautiful Akon
6. Single Ladies Beyoncé
7. Love Story Taylor Swift
8. Hot N Cold Katy Perry
9. Rock N' Roll Train AC/DC
10. Circus Britney Spears

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Music

Eddie Vedder and the new America

Here are two things I never expected to hear: (1) "As your financial adviser, I won't be charging you any management fees this year because your portfolio

went down and I blame myself." And (2) "I have Eddie Vedder on the phone for you."

I'm still paying management fees on my RRSP. Eddie, on the other hand, was, in fact, on the phone from

somewhere in Seattle. And despite his well-documented, er, reserve, the Pearl Jam frontman sounded, well, rather verklempt — in a good way. So how is he doing, following the inaugural of U.S. President

Barack Obama?

"I'm OK. I'm beyond OK. I'm great. I'm so overwhelmed and overcome with emotion. We have new a president as of a couple of hours ago and I've got all my nerves right

on the surface here. I feel incredible, I feel relieved, I feel exhausted."

So what kind of hopes and predictions does he now have, I ask.

"Two years ago, you were wondering what could there possibly be to unite our country and get us out of this mess. What can get us back on the positive? What can bring us back into some kind of standing with the international community? And it seemed like that there would not be any answer. Who knew we would get to this moment?"

Maybe Barack Obama's greatest contribution is simply going to be the re-ignition of hope, he suggests.

"So now it's up to us to keep that candle, turn that into a flame and keep it burning. And to protect and serve him and

SoundCheck

Alan Cross



alan@ongoinghistory.com

serve our nation now that the electorate has been invigorated."

We had our own federal election in October and the turnout and interest was low. However, hundreds of Canadians travelled to Washington to take part in American history.

"Wow. Well, you know, we are connected — more than just geographically. Our cultures are very similar and when one goes down, the other is going to follow in certain ways."

Eddie and I talked about everything from the upcoming reissue of Pearl Jam's Ten album (due March 24) to any lingering bad feelings towards Ticketmaster.

But here was my big question: How did Eddie come to cover a Canadian song for the Into the Wild soundtrack? The answer next week.



The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com



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Congratulations to Candice Mittelstadt for being our lucky voter! Nancy has one a prize pack valued at over \$100!

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ABC orders Threesome

ABC has ordered a pilot for Threesome, a comedy from Ricky Blitt, former writer/producer of the animated series Family Guy. The multi-camera project centers on a thirtysomething guy who hasn't quite grown up. **REUTERS**

Entertainment

Mixing of musical eras

Little Joy draws from folk, reggae and Strokes-y garage rock

ROB MCMAHON
for Metro Canada



Little Joy describe themselves as one of the most laid-back bands around.

Formed in a non-descript dive bar in L.A. by musicians on a break from their day jobs, the whole project has the breezy air of Mai Tais under pink tropical sunsets.

"At first we didn't mean to do an album, but we thought we'd better look at what we had, and started recording ... And now I'm sitting in a van eating a cup of noodles," said singer-guitarist Rodrigo Amarante. "In California, there's really not a lot of obligations, except fun and relaxation. I hope that comes out (in the album)."

After a chance encounter at a music festival a couple years ago, Amarante moved in with Strokes drummer Fabrizio Moretti (who plays many instruments in Little Joy) and his girlfriend, singer-songwriter Binki Shapiro. As Amarante, whose main gig is with Brazilian rockers Los Hermanos, describes it, Little Joy concocted songs using offbeat instruments like a ukulele-



Little Joy concocted songs for their self-titled debut using offbeat instruments like a ukulele-sounding tenor guitar, all in the shadow of "palm trees and beer."

sounding tenor guitar, all in the shadow of "palm trees and beer."

Recorded to low-fi equipment, the resulting self-titled album is cinematic in the sense of Beirut's music — but rather than an imagined Eastern European homeland, it recalls imagery from a sepia-toned, rum-soaked Caribbean holiday. While the band didn't turn to old films or Hemingway anec-

dotes for inspiration, Amarante said they did conceive of the songs as stories.

"We treated this group of songs like a movie that doesn't exist, except in our heads. That helped us develop some of the lyrics and characters in the songs," he said. "At other times we would use lyrics to (talk about) the past of a character in another (song)."

With a palette that touches on folk, reggae and Strokes-y garage rock, the band picked and chose arrangements from different musical eras. The tropical pop of The Next Time Around and Brand New Start express cheery takes on love, while Play the Part is a quiet acoustic strummer. The first English song Amarante ever wrote, How to Hang a Warhol, is more than a jokey autobiograph-

ical tune to friends back home. It also captures the band's philosophy.

"The lyrics came from a joke where people back in Brazil thought I got Americanized, so I wanted to write the most American thing I could," he said. "The song is about just doing it — having dreams and doing well, but at the same time accepting yourself and what you like to do."

Seyfried a Woman of No Importance

CASTING Amanda Seyfried, who played a daughter with an unknown father in the 2008 musical hit Mamma Mia!, has joined the cast of A Woman of No Importance, the Oscar Wilde adaptation that Bruce Beresford is directing.

Seyfried will star opposite Annette Bening in the Myriad Pictures comedy, playing a young woman who falls victim to the mischievous games of a group of upper-crust members of British society.

Seyfried's upcoming films include the romantic drama Dear John and the Diablo Cody-penned horror comedy Jennifer's Body.

Run-DMC coming to the big screen

MOVIES Notorious screenwriter Cheo Hodari Coker is taking on another story that involves a slain rap star.

Coker will adapt Bill Adler's Tougher Than Leather: The Rise of Run-DMC — The Authorized Biography for DJ Classicz, the urban arm of Davis Entertainment.

In Tougher, the filmmakers will explore the history of hip-hop's first superstars: Joseph "Run" Simmons, Darryl "DMC" McDaniels and Jason "Jam Master Jay" Mizell, who was shot to death in his Queens studio in 2002. **REUTERS**

Celebration put on hold for Pitt, Jolie

MOVIES Hollywood stars Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have been blessed with twin Oscar nominations as well as twin babies, but say they are too busy changing diapers to celebrate.

The couple strolled up the red carpet on Thursday for the Japan premiere of Pitt's latest film, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button which gained him an Academy Award nomination for best actor.

Jolie, who already boasts an Oscar, has been nominated for the best actress award for her performance in Changeling, directed by Clint Eastwood.

"Man, we're too busy dealing with Kleenexes and diapers and getting everyone fed to really celebrate. We'll do that next year," Pitt said. **REUTERS**

PUBLIC MEETINGS

School Review: Alderney School

The Halifax Regional School Board is currently conducting a school review of Alderney School, a grade Primary to six school in Dartmouth.

In accordance with the *Education Act and Regulations*, an *Impact Assessment Report* has been prepared looking at potential options regarding the future of the school.

A Study Committee has been formed and has responded to the *Impact Assessment Report*.

As part of the process, the school board will hold public meetings to give the public an opportunity to make representations to the Study Committee's response.

The meetings will take place at the following times:

Monday, February 2, 2009, 7 p.m.
Alderney School
2 Penhorn Drive, Dartmouth

(If necessary)

Tuesday, February 3, 2009, 7 p.m.
Alderney School
2 Penhorn Drive, Dartmouth

Members of the public interested in making a representation should contact the Halifax Regional School Board at 464-2000 ext. 2321 or e-mail corporatesecretary@hrsb.ns.ca.

A copy of the *Impact Assessment Report* and the Study Committee's response can be found on the board's website at www.hrsb.ns.ca/content/id/1030.html or by contacting the board using the information previously mentioned.

A decision on the future of Alderney School will be made by the school board no later than March 31, 2009.

The board could decide, among other things, to:

- keep the school open;
- consolidate the school, or a part of the school, with another public school; or
- permanently close the school.



Halifax Regional
School Board

Hugh Hefner's Playboy magazine has cancelled its annual Super Bowl pre-game extravaganza, a party it has been throwing before the big game for nine years, according to Bloomberg News. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Television

Super Bowl still the big ticket for TV

IntelleVision



Rick McGinnis
rick.mcgininis@metronews.ca

AD SPACE: The Super Bowl is one of the remaining real events on TV, something that has to be experienced

in real time, preferably not alone. While prime-time viewership erodes, an astounding 97 million U.S. viewers tuned into last year's game, and NBC is counting on similar numbers for not just Sunday's game, but the pre-game and half-time shows — and the commercials.

Super Bowl ad spots are premium products, and at least since Apple's epochal

1984 ad launching the Macintosh computer with director Ridley Scott's movie-quality visuals, Super Bowl commercials have been events. And for the most part, Canadians can't see them.

Sim-subbing is the industry term for the pre-emption of the U.S. broadcast signal with the local one by cable and satellite providers, and it ensures

that Canadian viewers will only see the ads that CTV, the Super Bowl's local broadcaster, has been paid to air. It's standard industry practice, in effect whenever the same show airs simultaneously on both sides of the border, but there are some who say that it diminishes some of the game's lustre as an event.

"These ads are costly,"

says Brian Steinberg, TV editor for Advertising Age magazine. "The production values add a couple of million dollars on top of the ad buy price ... If you're a first timer or a small company who get into these things, they're probably blowing all of their marketing budget on one ad."

With this kind of cash at stake, U.S. advertisers want to focus on their target market, says Steinberg. "I think the ads are aiming first at the U.S. audience, and I don't think Canadians are the biggest users of GoDaddy, or these other one-shot ads."

But Rick Brace, CTV's president of Revenue, Business Planning and Sports, says that GoDaddy has bought time on his network's broadcast, along with Nissan, Ford, Dodge, Kia, Labatt, Universal Studios and Pepsi, which has produced two spots especially for the Canadian market. While the buy-in for time on the Canadian broadcast isn't as rich as the \$3 million US NBC is asking for a 30-second spot — CTV won't

NFL

Super Bowl XLIII

reveal what its spots cost, though Brace says, "It's a premium product and we sell it as such," — 4.2 million Canadian viewers did tune into last year's game in English Canada, making it one of the top 4 TV events of the year.

Geography might mean a lot to a TV network, but it's nearly irrelevant on the Internet, and Brace says that most Super Bowl ads will be online within hours, even minutes, of their Sunday premiere. Steinberg says that for now, however, the broadcast event is still paramount. "They will be all over YouTube, but the biggest audience you'll get in one fell swoop will be on that TV screen ... It's nice to get some ancillary buzz, but the U.S. consumer base is their main customer."

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

FRIDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Wife Swap (N)	20/20 (HDTV)		20/20
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Wife Swap (N)	Comedy Now			Stargate SG-1
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	Just for Laughs (N)	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint (HDTV)	NUMB3RS	
sports	6	6	6	CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	NUMB3RS (HDTV)	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Friday Night Lights (N)		News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	Raising the Bar (N)	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint (HDTV)	Flashpoint (HDTV)		News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Not Cancer"	Lie to Me (HDTV)		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Friday Night Lights (N)	Dateline NBC
cable	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	World Cup of Poker	WWE SmackDown!				Score Tonight
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NBA Basketball Milwaukee Bucks at Toronto Raptors. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Mixed Blessing	Fish Out	The Rez	Follow the River ** (1995, Adventure)		
variety	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Achieving the Unachievable	Bravo! Fact	Books-Film	Crusoe *** (1988, Adventure)		
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Good Morning	Corner Gas	22 Minutes	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight	Campbell Brown: No Bias			Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Discovery Project Earth		Man vs. Wild "Australia"	Deranged (N)
cable	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	House Hunters	Extreme Home	Extreme Living	Location, Loc.
	46	46	46	HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	NCIS "Skeletons"		Shockwave		Urban Legends	Ax Men
	17	17	17	MM	Degrassi: TNG	Instant Star	Brooke Knows	Brooke Knows	America's Best Dance Crew		Tommy Boy ** (1995, Comedy)	
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) The Destructors		Runaway Train ** (1985, Action)	Jon Voight.			Trainspotting *** (1996, Drama)	
cable	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's Inquest		Testees	Kenny-Spenny
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted "Tammy"		Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	In Laws	Newlywed	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Real Simple. Real Life.		What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear (N)	Making Over
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	The Closer		Shall We Dance? (2004, Romance-Comedy)	
cable	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	Prank Patrol						Falcon Beach
							The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants *** (2005, Comedy-Drama)					

SATURDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	Wrld News Sat	Legend of the Seeker		Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004, Comedy)			Life on Mars
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Guilt by Association ** (2002, Drama)	Mercedes Ruehl.		Comedy Now (DVS)		Dangerous
	11	11	11	CBC	Sat. Report	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)					NHL Hockey
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	CBS News	Entertainment Tonight	Super Bowl-Commercials		NCIS "Recoil" (HDTV)		48 Hr. Mystery
sports	6	6	6	CIHF	Real Fight Club		Masterminds	Masterminds	Tank Overhaul		Go Deep "Speed Sailing"	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	W-FIVE-Musical Brain		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)		Cops	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Access Hollywood (N)		Crusoe (HDTV) (N)		Saturday Night Live Sports Extra (PA)	
cable	55	55	55	SCOR	MMA Show	Footy Show	World Poker Crown		BodogFight		College Basketball Florida at Tennessee. (Live)	
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		Strongest Man	Strongest Man	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Final.			SportsCentre
	16	16	16	A&E	The Beast "Nadia"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Tinder Box"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	Cooking-Wifm	MYTV	Music Speaks	The Mix	Rez Bluez "Blue Legends"		Bear Walker * (2000, Drama), Sheila Tousey	
variety	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	At the Concert Hall		Death at-Opera	Broadway	Croupier ** (1998, Suspense)	
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics!	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	Blue Collar TV	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	The Situation Room		Newsroom		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live	D.L. Hughley
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Cash Cab (N)	Out in the Cold	Toughest Race: Iditarod		Destroyed	Time Warp
cable	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Top Design		Million Dollar Listing	Extreme-Home
	46	46	46	HIST	Ax Men		NCIS "Head Case"		Ancestors		Ancestors	Sahara ** (2005, Adventure)
	17	17	17	MM	America's Best Dance Crew		Tommy Boy ** (1995, Comedy)	Chris Farley.			Gossip Girl (HDTV)	Muchmsc Ctdn
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) Stormy Monday		(8:15) Swingers *** (1996, Comedy)	Jon Favreau.			The Mask of Zorro 1998, Adventure)	
cable	39	39	39	SHOW	NUMB3RS "Thirteen"		Mutant X "Fool for Love"		Second Sight (2007, Drama)	Lexa Doig, Ty Olsson.		Click
	40	40	40	SLICE	Beautiful	Mr. Friday	Last 10	10 Pounds	Party Mamas	Party Mamas	Project Runway Canada (N)	Housewives
	21	21	21	TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras		17 Kids-Count	17 Kids-Count	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	My First Home	My First Home
	22	22	22	W	Hwd 10 Best	Style by Jury	Ella Enchanted ** (2004, Romance-Comedy), Hugh Dancy				A Cinderella Story (2004, Romance-Comedy)	
cable	27	27	27	YTV	Kid vs. Kat	Kid vs. Kat	Team Galaxy	Team Galaxy	Zixx Level		Storm Hawks	Naruto
												Bleach
												Ghost

SUNDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC News	Funniest Home Videos		Wipeout		Wipeout	Wipeout
	7	7	7	ASN	Young Blades		Funniest Home Videos		Cold Case (HDTV)		Waydowntown ** (2000, Comedy)	
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland (HDTV) (DVS)		Marple: Murder Is Easy (2008, Mystery)	Julia McKenzie.			CBC News: Sunday Night (N)	Who Do-Think
	32	32	32	CBS	Evening News	News (N)	CBS Reports (N)		Cold Case (HDTV)		The Unit "Sacrifice"	The Mentalist
sports	6	6	6	CIHF	16:9 Picture	King of the Hill	American Dad	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	American Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy
	9	9	9	CJCH	NFL Football Super Bowl XLIII -- Arizona Cardinals vs. Pittsburgh Steelers. (HDTV) (Live)							
	36	36	36	FOX	Cold Case		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		The Simpsons	American Dad	Family Guy	American Dad
	12	12	12	NBC	NFL Football Super Bowl XLIII -- Arizona Cardinals vs. Pittsburgh Steelers. (HDTV) (Live)							
cable	55	55	55	SCOR	Score Update	Score Update	The WWE Experience		BodogFight		Strikeforce	Poker
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		Tennis Australian Open -- Men's Final.	From Melbourne, Australia.				SportsCentre
	16	16	16	A&E	The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)	The Sopranos
	70	70	70	APTN	Great Towns	MYTV	Rez Bluez "Blue Legends"		Music Speaks	The Mix	The Tracker (2002, Drama)	David Gulpili.
variety	37	37	37	BRVO	Mad Men		Arts & Minds	Bravo! Fact	Killer Whale and Crocodile		A Prairie Home Companion *** (2006)	
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics	Winnipeg Comedy Festival		Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	Fareed Zakaria GPS		Newsroom		State of the Union		Larry King Live	Comedy Net
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	MythBusters		Destroyed	Destroyed	Destroyed	Destroyed
cable	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Buy Me	Extreme Makeover: Home	Real Renos
	46	46	46	HIST	NCIS "Family Secret"		Death on the Eastern Front		Death on the Eastern Front		Cross of Iron *** (1977, War)	
	17	17	17	MM	Gossip Girl (HDTV)		America's Best Dance Crew		So You Think You Can Dance The top 14.			Dance
	206	206	206	PIX	(6) Barton Fink (1991)		(8:10) The Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox ** (1976)				Chasing Amy (1997, Romance-Comedy)	
cable	39	39	39	SHOW	TBA	Trailer Park	The Guard "Waheguru"		Destination: Infestation (2007, Suspense)			Damages
	40	40	40	SLICE	Tori & Dean	Newlywed	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Til Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	End of Leash	Spoiled Rotten
	21	21	21	TLC	Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Forbidden Love: Polygamy		My Husband's Three Wives		Anatomy of Sex (HDTV)	Biggest Loser
	22	22	22	W	Hwd 10 Best	Shopping Bags	Grocery Bag	Style by Jury	Crossed Over ** (2002, Docudrama)	Diane Keaton.	I Accuse *	Mother-Sex
cable	27	27	27	YTV	Are We There Yet? ** (2005, Comedy)	Ice Cube.			SpongeBob	Prank Patrol	The Next Star	Adrenaline

Music, monarchy and manhunts on the tube

The Musical Brain

Air date: Jan. 31

Network: CTV

The centrepiece scene in this documentary is probably Sting getting an MRI to help medical science understand how musicians' brains work. The great unanswered question, however, is why so many people like crap music.

Rick's TV Picks

BBC documentary follows Prince Charles around for a year on the eve of his 60th birthday, and how his long stay in the waiting room of monarchy has turned him into one of Britain's most relentless lobbyists.

Charles The Passionate Prince

Air date: Feb. 2

Network: CBC Newsworld

This heavily burnished

GlobalStyle



Kenya Hunt

Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle and check out her blog at kenyastyle.com

Visit Metronews.ca/movies for reviews, features and to buy tickets.

The Global Hunt For Mr. Swirl

Air date: Feb. 2

Network: CBC Newsworld

Canada became a setting in an Interpol manhunt four years ago when they discovered that the anonymous object of a pedophilia investigation was one Christopher Neil of British Columbia, though the Internet was the real location where he was unmasked, as detailed in this gruesome British documentary.

—RICK MCGINNIS /METRO CANADA

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR AIR TIMES

Parenthood Pilot

NBC has given a pilot order to *Parenthood*, a comedy-drama based on Ron Howard's 1989 feature. Friday Night Lights creator Jason Katims wrote the adaptation, which centered on a Midwestern family and starred Steve Martin. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Entertainment

Spinning Daydreams is the new album from Jessica Lalonde.

Jazz singer mines past

Jessica Lalonde goes old school on her new album

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada



Jessica Lalonde is all about the old school.

And she means really old school. The Midland, Ont.-born and Toronto-based songstress is set to release her debut album *Spinning Daydreams*, a jazz-styled collection of crooning and swinging covers from the big-band era of 1930s and '40s.

It's a genius close to the heart of the musical theatre vet and student of Italian opera program Centro Studi Lirica, who cites as inspiration female crooners of yesteryear such as Billie Holiday, Judy Garland, Edith Piaf and Nina Simone. It's also a far cry from her family's tastes in music. Her parents are avid classic rock fans, and brother Luke Lalonde fronts indie rock movers and shakers Born Ruffians.

"If you believe in reincarnation, part of me almost thinks I lived during that time," Lalonde laughs. "I spent a lot of time with my grandparents when I was little and that was their style of music. They would put on Tommy Dorsey and Vera Lynn. And there was just something about it that hit home. It always stuck with me."

Produced by Canadian jazz aristocrat Bill King, the disc is a kind of introduction for old and new fans of the genre. *Spinning*

Daydreams has a healthy mix of ballads and boppers, among them Cole Porter's *Begin The Beguine* from the 1935 musical *Jubilee* and Rogers and Hammerstein's Academy Award-winning 1945 hit *It Might As Well Be Spring*.

The collection, Lalonde says, was meant to invite new fans and inspire nostalgia. (The cover features a sepia-toned photo of her brandishing an old-fashioned microphone.)

"I picked a lot of my favourites, things I loved," she said. "If it was up to me I'd be doing a lot of ballads, but you can't do that on an album, you've got to have a balance. So I got some input from Bill who gave me other ideas."

The seasoned singer now faces uncharted waters: She frets over *Spinning Daydreams*' success, hoping her song choices will resonate with listeners as much as they have with her. But she continues to get her biggest thrill from winning over a crowd.

"Success to me is getting the opportunity to sing more," she said. "There's a terror to performing at first because you've got this crowd hundreds of people deep in front of you, but I think you need that in a way to put on a good show. And I guess there's a power to it, too. Everyone's watching you, and you bring out emotions in people with your song."

Zappa family loses German court battle

Gail Zappa, widow of U.S. rock legend Frank Zappa, has failed in her bid to stop a German music festival from using her husband's name and image.

Zappa and her family trust had launched a lawsuit against the German Frank Zappa fan club over its annual Zappanale festival, demanding the removal of a bronze sculp-

ture of Zappa at the festival site in Bad Doberan and damages of \$325,000 if the festival continues to use the Zappanale name.

But the higher court in Dusseldorf ruled Jan. 21 that festival organizers may continue to use Zappa's name and his image on the festival logo and related merchandise such as T-shirts and baseball caps.

It ruled that Gail Zappa's rights were not violated and that she could not prove she uses the Zappa brand in Germany herself. The court found that she has had knowledge of the festival since it began in 1990. Frank Zappa died in 1993.

Several thousand Zappa fans had demanded the withdrawal of the lawsuit,

which was launched in April 2008.

Thomas Dippel, festival speaker and head of the German Zappa fan club, welcomed the ruling.

"We have always been certain that we have the older rights," he said. "We have also patented the name of the festival with the German patent office."

REUTERS

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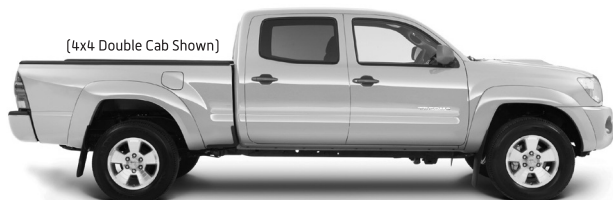
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34

Going Out



The Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada brings its comedic version of the tale of Don Juan to Halifax on Feb. 5.

Mix of Six

For more great events around the city, visit:
metronews.ca/entertainment

What a miserable tour this is (except it really isn't!)

When: Jan. 30, 7 and 9:30 p.m.
Where: Rebecca Cohn auditorium, 6101 University Ave.

Standup comedian Jeremy Hotz, who was on the writing staff of the Jon Stewart show, brings his laments on life to Halifax.

Life size ice age

When: Feb. 1 (to May 31)
Where: Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax; see museum.gov.ns.ca/mnh or call 424-6099 for hours
Check out the six-metre, life-sized mastodon model, Ice Age fossils and more at the Ice Age Mammals exhibit at the Museum of Natural History. Tickets: \$16.50 for families, \$5.75 for adults, \$3.75 for kids aged 6-17.

Black and White and Prom All Over

When: Fri. Jan. 30, 8 p.m.
Where: Neptune Studio Theatre, 1593 Argyle St.
Sip fine wines, eat the best food Halifax has to offer, and feel good about it; the money's going to a good cause. Black and White and Prom All Over is a Neptune Theatre fundraiser; the money raised from the 200 tickets sold will go toward keeping the theatre accessible. Tickets: \$75.

Think you know Don Juan? Think again

When: Feb. 5, 8 p.m.
Where: Rebecca Cohn auditorium, 6101 University Ave.

The Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada brings its comedic version of the tale of the legendary libertine to Halifax for just one night. The production just got back from a successful tour in Belgium. Tickets: \$28-\$38; artscentre.dal.ca

Savour Food & Wine

When: Sun. Feb. 1 through Sat. Feb. 28
Where: Various locations; see savourfoodandwine.com for details
Foodies, start your taste buds: The annual Savour Food & Wine festival starts Sunday. There's something for everyone, from the Chef for a Day cooking class to wine tastings and restaurant prix-fixe specials mid-way through the month.

Buck 65

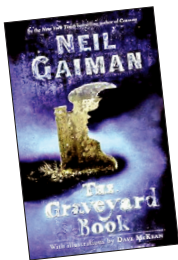
When: Sat. Jan. 31, 7 p.m.
Where: Palooka's Gym, 2110 Gottingen Street.
Buck 65, with Dina Thorpe and Tanya Davis, play as part of the popular In the Dead of Winter festival. Check in thedeadofwinter.com for details. Tickets: \$22.50.

Wax figure of Michelle is next

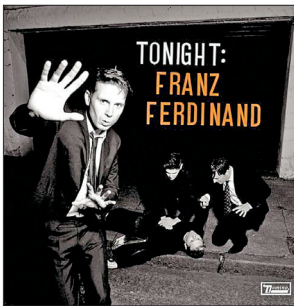
Michelle Obama is being immortalized in wax by Madame Tussauds wax museum. The figure will be unveiled in March after six months of work by designers who studied photos and videos of Michelle. INTOUCHWEEKLY.COM

**Going Out****Metro's 7th Heaven:** Metro taps what's hot right now**1 The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman****BOOK** Gaiman's story

about a boy raised by a vampire, a werewolf and a witch may have won the John Newbery Medal — the top prize for children's literature — but the tale's eerie edge cuts across age groups. Really, this is one giant spookfest for the entire family.

**2 Vicky Cristina Barcelona****DVD** Woody Allen's

twisted and irreverent take on all things love, replete with ménage a trois, adultery and violent passion. A fiery Penelope Cruz sizzles in the Spanish sun and Javier Bardem kills with those bedroom eyes. Not recommended for Valentine's Day viewing.

**3 Tonight/Franz Ferdinand****ALBUM** The Scottish

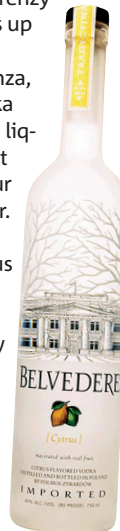
foursome are back with what they do best — getting a party started. Their third album holds some serious grooves, mixing post-punk beats with 21st century cool. And some mellow moments — perfect for the morning after.

6 Project Runway Canada: Second Season**TV SHOW** Haute cou-

ture. High drama. Supermodel host Iman. Fourteen aspiring designers. One winner. Enough said. Catch it every Tuesday at 10 p.m. on Global.

**7 Cupid Cup****DRINK** As Valentine's

Day frenzy gears up for its yearly romance bonanza, Belvedere Vodka serves up some liquid love, perfect for you and your snuggle partner. Mix 1 oz Belvedere Citrus with equal amount of white cranberry juice. Top it with champagne and garnish with berry of choice.

**4 Super Bowl ads****ADS** Come Sunday

there will be football frenzy, munch parties, and some of the best commercials you'll see on TV this year. Just to play catch-up, here's one of the best of 2008: Bridgestone tires — Driving down a country road in the middle of the night. Deer happens. So does Alice Cooper. Thank goodness for those wheels.

5 Caesar and Cleopatra**FILM** Get a taste of

Canadian theatre — on the silver screen. This filmed version of The Stratford Shakespeare festival's acclaimed production of the George Bernard Shaw play is the perfect antidote to the Oscar bug. Playing at select Cineplex theatres.

Settlement in Ledger case

LOS ANGELES Heath Ledger's insurance company and lawyers for his young daughter have reached an out of court settlement over a \$10 million policy claim on behalf of the girl, an attorney said yesterday.

Ledger, 28, died a year ago in his New York apartment in what officials ruled an accidental prescription-drug overdose.

But lawyers for ReliaStar Life Insurance Co. said they wanted to investigate further before paying out because his death might have been suicide, which would nullify the policy.

Attorney William Shernoff filed a lawsuit in July

2008 on behalf of Ledger's three-year-old daughter, Matilda Rose, over the \$10 million he argued was due to her as the beneficiary. After the lawsuit was filed, the two sides negotiated.

"The parties are pleased that they were able to reach an amicable settlement and solve the dispute," Shernoff said.

No details were released on terms of the agreement.

REUTERS

**Essence Festival adds Maxwell, Ne-Yo**

MUSIC Maxwell, Anita Baker, Al Green and Ne-Yo will join previously announced headliner Beyonce at the 15th annual Essence Music Festival this summer in New Orleans.

Also added to the lineup are John Legend, Robin Thicke, Salt-N-Pepa and En

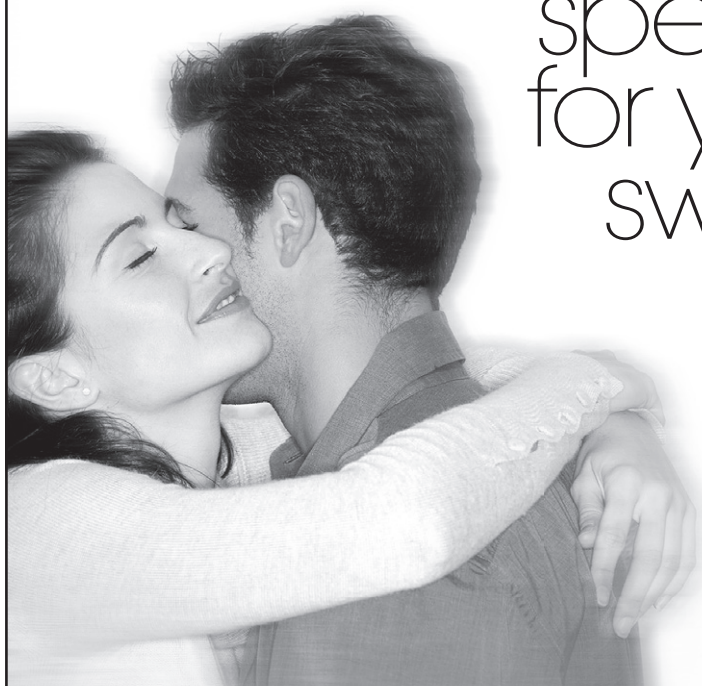
Vogue.

Organized by Essence magazine, the event is scheduled for July 3-5 at the New Orleans Superdome.

In addition to its concerts, the festival is known for its empowerment seminars, which are free.

REUTERS

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Going Away

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Following the A-list to Anguilla

Despite its sprinkling of stardust, this tiny island has lots to offer lower-profile visitors

DAVID WHITLEY
for Metro Canada

Going around Anguilla feels a bit like stalking. It seems as though every spot on the island has a celebrity rumour attached to it — the restaurant that P. Diddy likes to visit, the bar where Robert De Niro made cocktails for a joke, the villa where Denzel Washington threw his 50th birthday party. And that's just skimming the surface.

In recent years Anguilla has become the upmarket celebrity hang-out of

choice. It's seriously A-list, with a guest roster that includes the Clintons, Al Gore, Brad Pitt and repeat visitor Beyoncé.

It wasn't always like this. Historically, the tiny British Caribbean territory was rather poor.

It has next to nothing in the way of natural resources and is barely big enough to fit a small airport, let alone one that can accept jet planes.

But what it does have is beaches. Anguilla regularly crops up on lists of the world's best beaches, and

it's usually Shoal Bay East they have in mind.

This is the one that the day trippers from other islands come to, and it has dazzlingly white sands. Those celebs are well within their rights to keep shades on all the time here.

In truth, though, Anguilla has half-a-dozen such world-class beaches. Rendezvous Bay on the island's west end is

among those; and one of the swankiest joints on the island, the CuisinArt Resort and Spa, looks out over the beach.

It's visually stunning, with water from the pool funnelling off over the horizon and gleaming Greek-

style white buildings facing the Caribbean Sea.

The suites are enormous, the balconies have views to kill for and there's a lobster banquet twice a week.

It doesn't take long to realize why the hotshot CEOs and Hollywood stars come here. Michael J Fox, Celine Dion and Jay-Z are among the big names that have stayed at CuisinArt.

One of the other reasons that the rich and famous choose Anguilla is the locals. They're possibly the least star-struck people on earth.

There's no harassment for autographs or squawking mobs following every footstep — the Anguillans are quite happy to leave their visitors alone, and it's that peace and privacy that appeals.

The VIPs pay for it too. One step beyond the costly resorts are the ultra-expensive private villas that come with their own chefs and butler service.

The Altamer, for example, costs a minimum of \$30,000 US per week — and that excludes food. But the celebs don't care — it's pocket change, and they'll often have the bill signed off without checking the amount.

The ordinary pleb isn't priced out, however. There are still a few outposts that remain true to the original Anguilla.

One is Tasty's in South Hill, which is unquestionably the best value restaurant on the island.

It's bright, it's colourful and the food has a proper Caribbean flavour, thanks to Chef Dale Carty, who is a local. The fresh fish is always good, but the goat curry is the true stand-out.

"Anguilla regularly crops up on lists of the world's best beaches, and it's usually Shoal Bay East they have in mind."



Above, the stunning infinity pool at the CuisinArt Resort.



The dazzling beach at Shoal Bay East.



Looking out to St. Martin from Rendezvous Bay, Anguilla.

DAVID WHITLEY/FOR METRO CANADA

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Coraline

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Read more on [page 37](#)



A massage hut by the beach at Shoal Bay East, Anguilla.

Continued from page 36 »

Tasty's is also the place that the Anguillians rave about, so your fellow diners will include islanders — you'll not just be eating with other tourists, unlike in some of the more prestigious joints where the prices are three or four times more expensive.

The other defiantly unglammed-up option is Lloyds. It's the oldest hotel on the island, dating back to 1959 when there was no electricity, let alone paved roads.

It's now a little yellow guest house of the best kind. The staff are friendly, guests chat over breakfast together and a couple of long-term residents offer

Anguilla

Getting there: There are no direct flights to Anguilla from outside the Caribbean. Most visitors will either get the ferry over from St. Martin or fly with LIAT from Antigua, liatairline.com.

Staying there: Suites at the CuisinArt Resort and Spa, cuisinartresort.com, start at \$475 US a night, while rooms

at Lloyds, lloyds.ai, start at \$75 a night. If you have to ask how much it is per night at The Altamer, altamerresort.com, you're in the wrong place.

Info: See anguilla-vacation.com for ideas on where to eat, drink and go sight-seeing.

DAVID WHITLEY/
FOR METRO CANADA

to give newcomers the inside track on the island.

It attracts an extraordinarily diverse bunch, which is in contrast to the American-heavy clientele the rest of the island gets. Kiwi wedding parties, Swedish backpackers, Italian families and Trinidadian

health workers all sit around and swap stories.

Anguilla may have a heavy sprinkling of stardust, but it's still possible for the average Joe to enjoy Caribbean cocktails and glistening beaches in the ultimate Hollywood hang-out.

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TODAY'S BEST MUSIC





Looks like Mickey Rourke won't be stepping into the ring for WWE's Wrestlemania after all. Rourke was approached by WWE to make an appearance at the big event, but his rep has drop-kicked the plan. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Not a wrestler for real

Celebrity Buzz

My weight reflects my life: Allen

PEOPLE Lily Allen says she has many reasons to "smile." The singer is feeling better with herself — and when she feels good, she keeps the weight off, people.com reports.

While promoting her new album *It's Not Me*, Allen, 23, says life "feels good," the press is treating her more kindly and the secret to being content with her body is to halt her urge to order French fries from room service in order to fill the happiness gap.

"The only reason I have lost weight is because I comfort eat when I'm not very happy," Allen tells U.K. tabloid the Sun. "The last two years, even though I had a lot of success with my first record, I was ... getting so drunk."

"I was on tour with people I didn't know, and I was all around the world working really hard and was really confused and lonely."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jagger headed for clothing line?

DESIGNER Mick Jagger has fuelled speculation he's set to follow in pal Dave Stewart's fashionable footsteps after meeting colourful designer Christian Audigier in Los Angeles on Wednesday, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The rocker and a bodyguard were spotted entering Audigier's office in Beverly Hills. The designer teamed up with Stewart in 2008 to launch the Rock Fabulous clothing line at Audigier's When I Move You Move trade show in Las Vegas.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

ScarJo's relationship advice? Dump him

RELATIONSHIPS Scarlett Johansson is "in love with love," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The *He's Just Not That Into You* star, who married her boyfriend Ryan Reynolds in a secret ceremony in September, is still crazy for Ryan but isn't sure if the romance will fade in time.

When asked about the impact marriage has on relationships, Johansson replied: "I have no perspective on that — you should ask me in 25 years."

"I am really in love with love. I'm a lover not a fighter. I'm a real lover."

The 24-year-old actress also revealed she regularly encourages her friends to end their relationships when they turn to her for advice.

She added to Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper: "My

friends and I talk about relationships and I probably over-analyze

everything. But I usually come back to the same thing, 'If this person is making you crazy or doubt yourself, then get rid of him.'

"I always sort of come back to that. Whether or not my girlfriends stay with the guy at the time, they usually end up parting ways in the end."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



I'm not dumb, Paris says

IMAGE Paris Hilton says she sometimes acts dumb on television to get laughs, but in real life she's "a strong person" who's been through a lot, people.com reports.

Appearing on the British morning show GMTV to launch her new reality show *Paris Hilton's British Best Friend*, Hilton, 27, said she cultivated her dumb blonde image for her hit FOX reality show *The Simple Life*, co-starring Nicole Richie, and it became her shtick.

"For five seasons I was stuck doing this character," she says. "It was kind

of hard always having to play that character when it's not who I am."

She adds, "I just say jokes but they think I'm serious, which I think is funny, and I think I kind of play

up the image sometimes because — whatever — it's just entertainment."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



West boasts of shoe caretaker

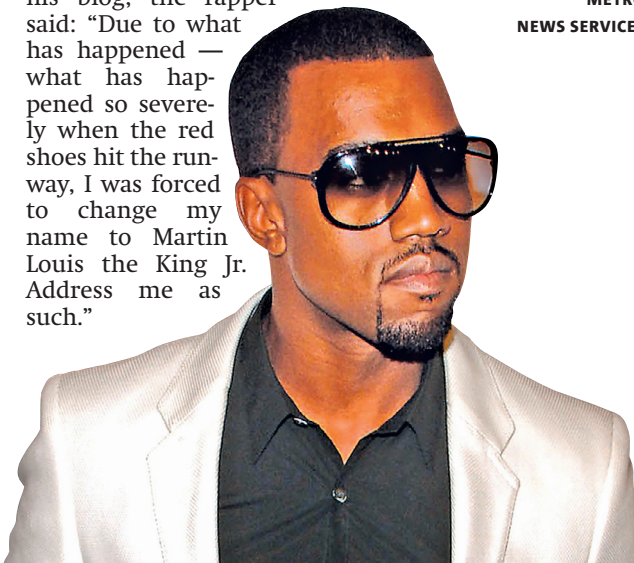
FASHION Kanye West pays someone to clean his shoes, according to femalefirst.co.uk. The Stronger singer boasts he is so rich he hires someone to "take care" of his shoes — all 450 pairs of them.

He said: "I hire someone specially to take care of my shoes. They clean them, box them and take a picture of them so it's easier to find them."

West recently announced he had changed his name after launching a new range of footwear for Louis Vuitton, which was unveiled during Paris Fashion Week last week.

In a video message on

his blog, the rapper said: "Due to what has happened — what has happened so severely when the red shoes hit the runway, I was forced to change my name to Martin Louis the King Jr. Address me as such."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rowland drops her manager Knowles

CAREER Kelly Rowland has parted ways with her manager, Beyoncé Knowles' father, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Destiny's Child singer and Mathew Knowles — who has managed Kelly since she was in the successful girl group and also looks after his daughters Beyoncé and Solange — agreed to separate earlier this week, with both parties insisting the split is "amicable."

Kelly's statement said: "Mathew Knowles has been a posi-

tive influence in my career. I have had great success under his guidance — both as a member of Destiny's Child and with my solo projects. Although we have decided to part ways professionally, the Knowles family and the entire Music World Entertainment team will always be my family."

It has been reported Rowland decided to call time on their professional relationship following a huge argument with the 58-year-old manager.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ritchie's 'better off' without Madonna: Dad

PEOPLE Madonna and Guy Ritchie's split may have looked ugly, but Ritchie's dad, John, tells *In Touch* that filing for divorce last October was a smart move.

"The worst thing would be if they reconciled," he said. "Guy is better off. He's in the States with the children at the moment."

The older Ritchie notes that his former daughter-in-law is also

moving on just fine. "She's been here with a chap, a friend of hers," he says. "We hope she does have a lot of boyfriends because it means she won't ever get back together with Guy."

And, despite reports that the exes were fighting over their kids, Rocco, 8, and David, 3, Guy's father says they've worked it out.

"There are no big arguments between them. All they discuss is the children," he says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lohan's life in danger, her father says in blog

PLEA Lindsay Lohan's father has begged her fans to "intervene" to save her life, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Michael Lohan — who has previously publicly discussed his hatred of the *Mean Girls* actress' girlfriend Samantha Ronson — claims Samantha is "destroying" the 22-year-old star's life, and is desperate for as many people as possible to

try to convince her to leave the relationship.

He wrote on his blog: "I am asking everyone out their (sic) to intervene in every way possible to help Lindsay, and quite possibly, save her life. Help this wonderful, good hearted and gifted young lady to see what SaMANtha is doing to her and how she is destroying her life."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

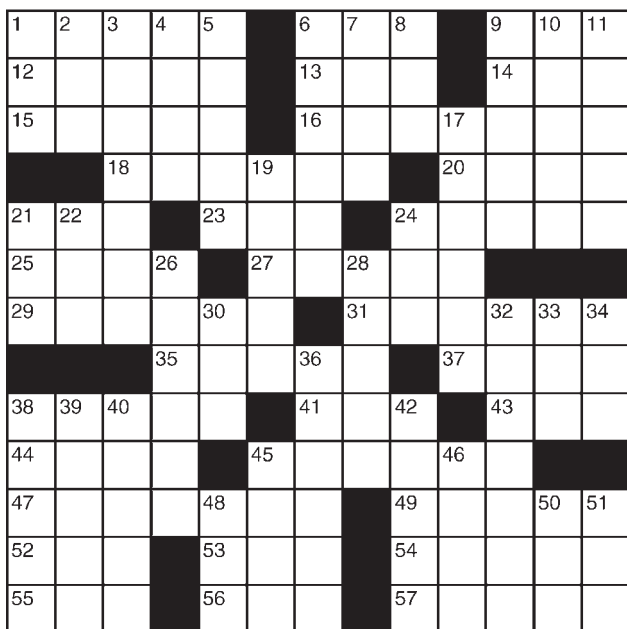




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Take Five



Crossword across

1 Ballroom offering
6 Peculiar
9 Bando of baseball lore
12 Hardly a brainiac
13 Sheepish remark
14 Expert
15 Having melody and harmony
16 Mad. Ave. music
18 Report card data
20 Ceremony
21 Hooter
23 Uncorrected
24 Western
25 Weeding tools
27 Cram, perhaps
29 Tile art

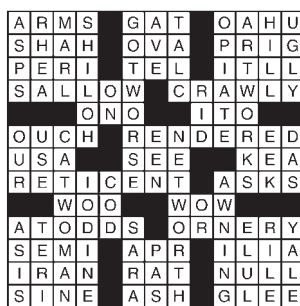
31 Actor Liam
35 Perch
37 Pebbles' pet
38 Inert gas
41 Second sequel notation
43 Different
44 Subsequently
45 Have membership
47 Paresthetic feelings
49 Cardiff's land
52 Singer DiFranco
53 Nevertheless
54 Vertical
55 Hatchery supply
56 Mound stat
57 Spiteful

Crossword down

1 Pose for a picture
2 Commotion
3 Rubs elbows
4 Piglet's papa
5 Rand's shrugger
6 Thing
7 Lectern location
8 Author Brown
9 Alley oops?
10 Mountain ridge
11 Runner-up
17 Showed signs of aging
19 "Saturday Night Fever" venue
21 Resistance measure
22 "Face/Off" director John
24 Praise in verse

26 Muumuu alternative
28 Up to the time that
30 Charged bit
32 Tennis match, often
33 Inseparable
34 Promptly
36 Nap
38 Oil of roses
39 African beast
40 Spirit in a bottle
42 Hawkeye
45 Batter ingredient, at times
46 California wine valley
48 Caustic solution
50 Have a bite
51 Firmament

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	3	7	8	9	4	5	6	2
6	5	4	3	1	2	9	7	8
9	2	8	5	7	6	3	4	1
4	8	1	9	3	7	6	2	5
5	6	3	2	4	8	7	1	9
7	9	2	1	6	5	4	8	3
8	7	5	4	2	9	1	3	6
3	4	9	6	8	1	2	5	7
2	1	6	7	5	3	8	9	4

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

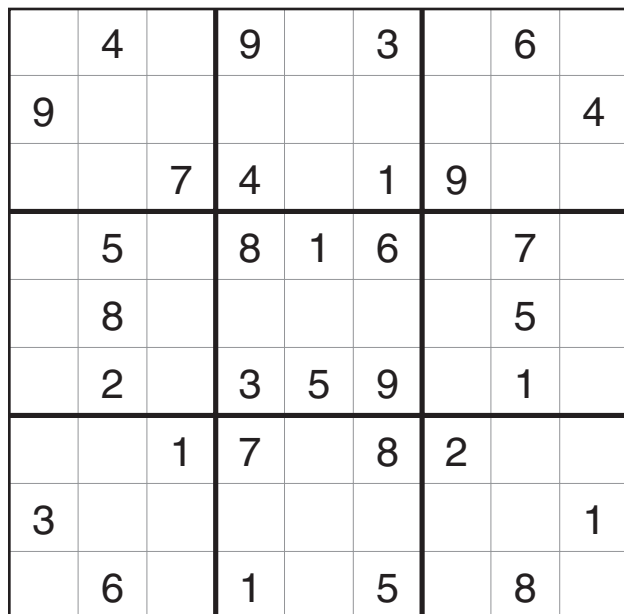
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 minGenius
13-17 min.....Scholar

17-21 minSmart
21-25 minNot bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day



Pasta and Tuna Salad with Zucchini and Sundried Tomato Pesto

INGREDIENTS:

250 g pasta twists or spirals, such as fusilli or rotini
2 tbsp (25 ml) extra virgin olive oil
1 onion, chopped
1 garlic clove, chopped
2 zucchinis, thinly sliced
2 tsp (10 ml) caster sugar
2 tbsp (25 ml) sun-dried tomato pesto
1 tbsp (15 ml) white or red wine vinegar
2 tbsp (25 ml) capers
6 tomatoes, skinned, halved and cut into thin wedges
1 can (6 oz/170 g) tuna in water, drained and roughly flaked
6 black olives (not oil-packed), pitted and halved
Fresh Italian parsley to garnish

METHOD:

1. Cook pasta in boiling water according to the package instructions, until just al dente. Drain pasta, rinse with cold water and drain again.

2. While pasta is cooking, heat half of olive oil in medium saucepan. Add onion and garlic, and fry 3 minutes, stirring frequently, until softened. Add remaining olive oil and zucchinis and cook, stirring occasionally, 3 minutes.
3. Add sugar, sun-dried tomato pesto, wine vinegar and capers to onion and zucchini mixture. Heat for a few seconds, stirring until all ingredients have combined to form a dressing.
4. Stir in tomatoes, then transfer mixture to large mixing bowl and set aside to cool.
5. Add drained pasta to bowl, then gently mix in tuna and black olives. Divide salad among 4 plates or transfer to large serving bowl. Serve garnished with some Italian parsley leaves.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20



A truthful confession causes a friendship to ripen. Put off accepting an offer for a few weeks. No bad deed will be unpunished.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23



Someone warms the cockles of your heart. Things will go right, for a change. Listen closely to a mystical story.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21



An apology comes up after a family argument. A hypochondriac finally arrives in style. You'll start something, only to be interrupted.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22



A painful condition is caused by a bad habit. A colleague will disappear within two weeks. Careless supervision becomes an issue.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21



Control your temper with a casual acquaintance. Stay out of dead-end friendships. Problems involve a tidal wave of indecision.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21



You can start living life on your own terms. Accidents cause travel mayhem. Share the benefits of your labour.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22



An exciting experience is offered by an older man. A distressed person causes a travel delay. You can't get a grip on what must be done.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20



A foot ailment needs a soothing bath. Delay making a major purchase. A missing loved one needs more empathetic treatment.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23



A heart is broken by an unsettling decision. People are losing patience with what ails you. Random acts of kindness will make your day.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18



Restrain your temper over wacky behaviour. A loved one is struggling with a blessing in disguise. A report provokes curiosity and wonder.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22



Try a new approach to job difficulties. There'll be complaints about faulty equipment. Enjoy taking a flight of fancy with a manager.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20



You'll be accused of sleep-walking through life. A qualified person has the best news. Shrug off a misunderstanding until later.

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*The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Motor Company, and used under license. **New sale prices are calculated after deducting price adjustments of the lease/finance starting price. Price adjustments are available on all 2009 Accent 3-Dr. L of \$3,600/2009 Elantra L 5-speed of \$3,850/2009 Sonata GL 4 5-speed of \$3,000/2009 Tucson L 5-speed of \$1,200/2009 Santa Fe GL 2.7L PWD 5-speed of \$4,000. Prices for models shown (after deducting price adjustments). 2009 Accent GL Sport of \$15,995/2009 Elantra Limited of \$20,295/2009 Sonata Limited of \$28,495/2009 Tucson Limited of \$29,995/2009 Santa Fe Limited of \$32,445. Delivery and Destination charges of \$1,495/\$1,495/\$1,760/\$1,760. Registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and Destination charges include freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. *Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2009 Accent/2009 Elantra/2009 Sonata/2009 Tucson/2009 Santa Fe models with a finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0% for 36/36/48/60/48 month terms. Financing example: 2009 Tucson L 5-speed starting price of \$19,995 (after deducting the price adjustment) at 0% per annum equals \$333.25 per month for a total obligation of \$19,995. Cash price is \$19,995. Example price does not include Delivery & Destination, registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes. *Starting price for 2009 Elantra Touring GL 5-speed model shown of \$18,795. Price excludes Delivery and Destination charge of \$1,495, applicable license fees, insurance, registration and all taxes. Delivery and Destination charges include freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. *420 offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. **See your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Comprehensive Limited Warranty. Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty covers most vehicle components against wear, tear and maintenance conditions.